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Justice for the Worker
Constructive Cooperation
and
A Square Deal for the Employer

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No Room on Board for Mutineers In Time of Stress and Peril

The Good Book tells of the enemy who sowed cockle in his neighbor's field, in the night-time, so as to spoil the harvest. However, the story also relates that the cockle was allowed to grow until the time of the harvest—when it was gathered into bundles to burn. That was the end of the cockle!

Quite unmoved by any patriotic considerations and with an evident desire to embarrass the present Administration at Washington, Senator Fess of Ohio, a stand-patter of the most hide-bound partisan order, is attacking the President on the grounds of the impracticability of the general recovery program. He seems to entirely overlook the fact that his party, the Republican party, had been in complete control of the national government for the preceding 12 years!

As a result of that undisputed and complete control, a huge Tower of Babel was constructed which finally toppled over, engulfing in its ruin the entire financial and economic structure of the country. To this scene of wreck and ruin, chaos and desolation, Franklin D. Roosevelt succeeded on last March 4th.

Meantime, prior to that change of Administration, Mr. Hoover had sat shivering and quivering with doubt and indecision. Aside from his fanatical support of prohibition, then a ghastly farce and a billion-dollar-a-year expense, there was nothing forthcoming from the White House but white-lipped promises of a returning prosperity "just around the corner."

Senator Fess refers to an assault upon the "freedom of the press" on the part of the President. The President, with his own voice and over the radio, has given the most solemn and emphatic assurances that any talk of subordinating the free press was false and unworthy of belief. The public may be assured of that fact. This newspaper itself can offer first-hand testimony to that demonstrated fact.

The old-time Republican party wheel-horse, Senator Fess, claims that "more employment is necessary to restore normal conditions." Let us ask: "What caused unemployment?"

Did not the Republican-controlled government sit supinely still while the wealth of the country was being thrown away abroad in billions, by fictitious "purchases" of American goods and merchandise with worthless paper? Did not the same government sit helplessly still while the New York bankers and international bankers loaded the public with hugely inflated foreign "securities," billions of which are now in default?

Did not the Senator's government stand for child labor and the sweat-shop, things abhorrent to human reason and public decency?

Did not the government—the Republican-controlled government—allow the American Navy to be sunk and thereby yield control of the seas to European nations?

Did not Senator Fess' party, through Mr. Hoover, raise the hopes of the European Nations for a repudiation of the war debts with his insidious policy of a "moratorium," with the present result that all Europe, practically, is demanding "a revision" of the war debts?

This simply means that the American citizens will have to pay, in sweat and toil, as well as in blood, wounds and suffering, for having fought Europe's battles!

The so-called captains of industry to which Senator Fess refers as capable of working out their own problems, and who should be permitted to carve out their own path without interference on the part of the government, have had their chance. They failed miserably, and had it not been for government interference last March, when the entire banking industry was in a terrible muddle, with fourteen millions of people unemployed, and the greater portion of the nation's industries on the verge of bankruptcy, neither Senator Fess nor any other man in the country could foresee what would happen a few months hence.

That the Senator from Ohio is taking advantage of occurrences of the past few weeks, when a former great Democrat undertook to criticise the administration's monetary policy, is most apparent. That this was ill-timed is evidenced by the fact that Fess' criticism, like that of "Al" Smith's, is accepted with anything but good grace on the part of the electorate. Their faith and confidence in the President, notwithstanding the vicious propaganda recently instituted against his administration, seems unshaken.

As to the claims of the good old party whip and henchman, Senator Fess, that President Roosevelt is assuming the powers of a dictator, that is a self-evident absurdity. The President is acting, and acting only, by express grant of authority from Congress, which authority Congress may revoke as freely as it granted it.

The sum and substance of the whole matter is like that when Abraham Lincoln was first elected to Washington. He was faced with a situation not much unlike that which confronted Roosevelt, ruin, dissension, a divided country, or as he put it, an empty barn and a stolen horse. "I think I can find the tracks," said Lincoln. And he did.

And that is what President Roosevelt is proceeding to do. The robber bankers, the exploiters of labor and the treasury bloodsuckers have done their worst. A new hand is now at the helm. The Ship of State will weather the storm, but there is no room on board for mutineers in this time of stress and peril.

Three Candidates For President of Street Carmen's 714

There will be three contests for election of officers of Street Railway Employes, Division 714, to be held in Pythian Hall next Friday.

For the office of president, there are three candidates, the contestants being Frank C. McDonald, James McGowan and H. C. Woodside.

Charles Webster and Prescott H. Walker will contest for the vice presidency.

For the office of financial secretary and treasurer, the candidates are Thomas P. Burns and Edward W. Cobb.

Unopposed candidates are: for secretary, Wylie H. Smith; warden and sentinel, Frederick W. Burgess; conductor, James W. Caisson; correspondent to the Motorman and Conductor, Wylie H. Smith.

Early Xmas Buying Assures Relief for Overworked Clerks

A little Washington girl, just turned four, says, "After a few little days Christmas will be here—just a few little days." The little girl speaks truer than she knows. Nothing goes any faster than time, as most persons realize when they begin to accumulate years, and Christmas will be upon us before we know it.

Which behooves all who are in a position to do any Christmas buying to get busy at once and give early assistance to Santa Claus. Unfortunately, some millions are unable to help Santa and others are able to give only a little assistance. But those who can will benefit themselves and others by doing their shopping without delay, before the last grand rush begins.

By buying now (of course in stores that advertise in The Labor News) Christmas shoppers will have the advantage of better stocks and better attention from sales people. They will also have the advantage of an unhurried selection. Even more important, they will be helping the store clerks, who are always over-worked at the height of the holiday season.

"Are You Going to Let That Crew Do Your Thinking?"

No doubt every sweat-shop operator feels that the Government is persecuting him when it establishes a standard of wages and hours. No doubt every man who was able to undersell his competitors by employing children feels that the Government's interference was a violation of his sacred rights. Are you, who can compete by brains rather than bulldozing, going to let such people do your thinking for you?

Why did we find ourselves in the desperate situation of six months ago? Was it not partly because some of our so-called captains of finance had skinned the country alive by misnamed securities, which after furnishing enormous profits to their promotors, bankrupted both the companies financed and the investors and left the country without the purchasing power to buy what you make? Are you going to let that crew do your thinking for you?—Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, in speech before National Association of Manufacturers.

Ban Against German Goods By Federation

Mobilization of Buying Power of Millions of American Workers Urged as Protest Against Hitler's Murderous Persecution of German Labor Leaders—To Do Otherwise is to Condone Brutality.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7 (AFL).—The urgent duty of looking for the label "Made in Germany" on all products of every sort and refusing to buy an article so marked, was emphasized at the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor as the imperative duty of all workers in carrying out the mandate of the 1933 convention of the A. F. of L. for a boycott of German goods and services until Chancellor Hitler ceases his repressive policy of persecuting German trade unions and Jews and recognizes the right of the working men and women of Germany to organize into bona fide independent trade unions of their own choosing.

It was pointed out that under Federal statutes all goods imported into the United States are required to carry a label showing the country in which they are manufactured. Every toy, every patent medicine, every bottle or keg of beer, and every other product manufactured under Chancellor Adolph Hitler's notorious Nazi regime must carry the plainly visible label "Made in Germany." American labor and all other liberty-loving citizens should watch for this label and see to it that no product bearing it desecrates American homes.

The vast purchasing power of the millions of American workers and their families mobilized as a protest against the goods produced in Nazi factories, where the workers work under a dictatorship devoid of even the semblance of economic liberty, will carry in ringing and clear tones across the ocean to Hitler and his barbarous associates American labor's emphatic protest against the destruction of the German labor movement, the confiscation of trade union and social democratic property worth many millions of dollars, the imprisonment of hundreds of union officials, and the unspeakable persecution of labor leaders and the entire Jewish population.

For the American workers to do less than boycott the goods of Hitler's Ger-

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NRA VISIONS SOCIAL ORDER BASED ON JUSTICE FOR LABOR, GREEN SAYS

A. F. of L. President Tells Church Council That Industry Must be Reorganized to Secure Shorter Hours and Higher Wages for the Workers, and Summons Church to Assist in Realizing This "New Social Deal."

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11.—"Righteousness, morality, justice and the observance of ethical standards must be recognized and practiced in dealings between employer, employe and representatives of the Government," declared William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in an address to the delegates attending the 25th anniversary celebration of the Federal Council of Churches in America.

"Selfishness, dishonesty and exploitation must be eliminated from all relationship existing between those who control and those who serve industry and a social order based upon religious precepts and principles must be substituted."

Turning to what must be done in the reorganization of our institutions to secure justice for the great masses of the workers, Mr. Green said, in part:

Social Obligation of Ownership

"A fair appraisal of the existing state of public thought and the public mind justifies the conclusion that those who own and control our financial and industrial institutions are expected to develop a social conscience and an understanding of the true relationship of industry and finance to human welfare and national prosperity.

"Industry and financial institutions must not be instrumentalities of individual and public exploitation. They must operate for the common good as well as for private gain. The earnings of dividends for stockholders should not be regarded as the sole justification for their existence. The ownership and control of industry and financial institutions carries with it a social obligation, rather than the exercise of an absolute right to exploit and dictate.

"The earnings of industry must be equitably distributed between owners and workers. The rights and privileges of workers must be respected. The length of the working day and week should be fixed so as to provide employment for the largest possible numbers. So far as possible, seasonal dips and peak periods should be overcome and work security guaranteed. In my opinion, industrial management must either meet the future requirements of the existing social order with regard to social service or become subject to government regulation and government control.

NRA Seeks Jobs for Idle

"It is upon this hypothesis that the Government is now proceeding in the administration of the National Recovery Act. The people of this Nation are seeking to overcome unemployment, create buying power and restore prosperity. The Government is endeavoring to succeed where industrial management failed. It is striking at the vital spot of unemployment through a reduction in working hours and an increase in mass buying power through the establishment of higher wage levels. It is safe to conclude that success in this great economic adventure will be achieved and that there will be no complete return to the old order out of which unemployment with all its attending loss and human suffering arose.

Church Must Take Bold Stand

"The cause of the helpless and oppressed must always receive the support of the Church. It is deeply concerned with the advancement of spiritual and social values. In this new day, so richly filled with new economic thinking, when men and women are inspired with a new vision and a new determination that henceforth, within our own Land, there must be a wider distribution of material blessing and a diffusion of prosperity, so that it may be enjoyed by all rather than by the favored few, the Church must boldly stand in support of the new social deal and new economic order."

A Shot in the Arm?

"In five short but strenuous months since the passage of this Act, 4,000,000 men have been put back on the payrolls; the sweatshop, child labor, and chiseler are passing into history. Wave all of that aside, if you will. Call it anything you want—a hypodermic, a shot in the arm. Dismiss the immediate effects as such, and you still have the real purpose and the real opportunity that is offered to American business and industry under the Act."—Malcolm Muir, in address before Machine Tool Builders Association.

LABOR TO BE REPRESENTED ON ALL CODE AUTHORITIES ESTABLISHED UNDER NRA

JOHN L. LEWIS
President, United Mine Workers of America

Decision by General Johnson Establishes Principle of Partnership Between Industry, Labor and The Government, Each to Be Treated With Equal Consideration.

John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers' President, Slated to Be One of Three Government Representatives-at-Large on National Bituminous Coal Industry Board—Lewis Says Employers Need Have No Fears About Patent Rights and Trade Secrets, as Union Already Knows All About These.

Washington, D. C., [illegible] 11 (AFL).—The American Federation of Labor won its fight for labor representation on all authorities which administer the fair competition codes established under the National Industrial Recovery Act when General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, at a conference with members of the NRA Labor Advisory Board, announced his approval of the principle.

General Johnson's action finalized a struggle which began two months ago, when the annual convention of the A. F. of L. unanimously adopted the Executive Council's recommendation that "labor representation in the drafting of code proposals in every stage of code hearing before the National Recovery Administration and in the enforcement and administrative agencies provided by the code, is essential to achieving the purposes of the National Recovery Act and to meeting the requirements of human justice."

Since the convention the officers of the A. F. of L. have urged favorable action on this recommendation, and General Johnson's decision establishes the principle pointedly stated by William Green, president of the A. F. of L., when he said, in support of the policy of labor representation, "that if there is to be a partnership between industry, labor and the Government, each party should be treated with equal consideration."

In labor circles here it is believed that the first appointment under General Johnson's ruling will be John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, to be one of the three government representatives-at-large on the National Bituminous Coal Industry Board.

Trade Secret Fallacy

The objection that manufacturers might not want representatives of labor to yecome familiar with their patent rights and trade secrets, was

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Tackled Big Job. Knew There Would Be "Dead Cats"

"When I undertook this job I had an accurate vision of at least a small part of the future. I said—publicly at the very outset—that to take it was just like mounting the guillotine on a bet that the axe wouldn't work—that the early applause would cease and soon the air would be full of dead cats. There was no magic in these prophecies. I had been through the same thing before.

"I knew exactly what was in the law I had sworn to execute. I know what it would do to a certain few and I knew their methods of fighting back because I know them—not by repute or hearsay—but intimately and well.

"I knew that it was a law that recognized the rights of the little fellow as well as the big fellow. I knew that it stepped on a few toes and some of the biggest, kickingest toes in the country.

"I knew they ad been used to trampling anybody who opposed them and I knew that as soon as they dared they would tramp on N. R. A.

"I was deliberately threatened with this attack some months ago and at least it is no surprise."—Gen. Hugh S. Johnson in speech before Chicago Association of Commerce.

Place Unopposed For Presidency of Central Labor Union

Philip T. Place, who has ably filled the office of president of the Portland Central Labor Union during the past year, will be unopposed for re-election for another term.

There will be three candidates for the office of vice president, namely: Walter Fernald, I. R. Johnson and Raymond W. Weinert. Frank C. McDonald was re-nominated for secretary and Thomas Magner and Thomas Walsh are candidates for the office of sergeant-at-arms.

There are four candidates for members of the Executive Board, three to be elected, namely: Edward H. Sylvester, Frank H. Jackman and Richard Fogg.

Secretary McDonald was instructed to notify City Manager James E. Barlow that the Central Labor Union is of the opinion that the Stroudwater flying field is the most logical airport to be developed by the city through Federal aid funds.

Reports of delegates representing building trades unions, were that there had been slight improvement as the result of CWA projects, but that business in the industry was still in a precarious condition, with a large number of men still unemployed.

Important communications from the American Federation of Labor, urging assistance in organizing several crafts, these including laundry workers, Federal employes, retail clerks and others, were received and referred to the organizing committee.

Questions of importance pertaining to legislative affairs were discussed and referred to the legislative agent of the Maine State Federation of Labor.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE LABOR NEWS! HAS IT EXPIRED? LOOK UP YOUR LAST RECEIPT; THAT TELLS THE STORY!

WATCHFUL WAITING ATTITUDE EXCITES PEOPLE OF ENTIRE STATE REGARDING PROBABLE RESULT OF SPECIAL SESSION

Governor Brann's Recommendations for Adoption of the Child Labor Amendment, Provisions for Old Age Pension Law, Better Banking Facilities, Revision of Tax System, Constructive Liquor Laws and Other Important Matters, Compel State-Wide Attention.

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

What's going to result in the way of remedial legislation from the special session of the Legislature now being held in Augusta?

This is the question asked by a watchful-waiting citizenry throughout the State, and as to what the Legislature will do with the many important measures recommended by Governor Louis J. Brann in his message when the special session was opened on December 4th.

Up to this writing, little has been accomplished, but what can be gathered from reports, there is a likelihood that the result will be fairly satisfactory to Labor, which is especially interested in the passage of the Child Labor amendment and provisions for making the Old Age Assistance law—passed at the last session—effective.

In Augusta, where I spent a few hours last week, all was excitement, with representatives of the Maine State Federation of Labor consistently looking after those measures which more greatly affect organized Labor.

Particular among these, of course, is the ratification of the Child Labor amendment, which is strongly recommended by the American Federation of Labor, and which thus far is meeting with favor in the Legislatures of nearly all the States that have taken action on it.

Tax Revision

Next in importance in which officials of the State Federation are interested is the immediate revision of the tax system to be enacted by the Legislature or submitted to the people, with provisions for paying old age pensions.

Various means are being discussed for making this possible if not accomplished in the above manner. One of these, which is sponsored by the Socialist Party, and favored by the Executive Board of the Federation, proposes to legalize a State lottery and a pari-mutuel system of betting, as passed by the New Hampshire Legislature and which, according to reports, added materially to the State's finances this year.

The plan, as proposed by Senator

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MSGR. RYAN SAYS FATHER COUGHLIN "ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS" IN FIGHT FOR SUCCESS OF NAT'L RECOVERY ACT

Washington Economist Adds Fuel to Fire by Stating Pope Is More Radical Even Than the New Deal—Says Detroit Priest is Stirring Up the Animals—Refers to the Masses as Sluggish-Minded.

Declaring that Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, militant priest, is "on the side of the angels" in his advocacy of the Roosevelt recovery program, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John A. Ryan, of Washington, told the Catholic Conference on Industrial Problems, meeting at Detroit during the week, that Fr. Coughlin is "enlisting the masses" to fight for the recovery cause.

Msgr. Ryan, economist and professor of ethics and moral theology in Catholic University of America, made his statement in a question-and-answer appearance before the conference, after he had concluded an address in which he said that "the Pope is more radical even than the new deal."

"I know you all want to ask me about Fr. Coughlin," he said. "I do not agree with everything he says. But on the main question that confronts us now in an effort to get out of this depression, as regards the issue between those who believe in and those who oppose social justice, Fr. Coughlin is one the side of the angels.

"Let him make all the mistakes he likes; he is stirring up the animals and that has got to be done by some one. The masses are sluggish-minded and have not shown any faint signs of rebellion until recently.

"The recovery program opposed by the monied interests cannot be carried through on an intellectual plane alone. The masses must be enlisted to fight for it before you can put it over. Fr. Coughlin is arranging that kind of thing to a considerable extent and in doing so is a useful citizen.

"In spite of the exaggerations which he may—I say may—make, he is on the side of the angels."

Pope Goes Farther

Discussing the NRA program, Msgr. Ryan said that while NRA codes "regulate wages, hours, labor organizations, industrial disputes and occasionally prices and the amount of production," the Pope "would make labor participation in drawing up and administering the codes not merely permissible but mandatory."

"While the NRA is truly revolutionary," he said, "it does not go as far as the occupational group organization recommended by Pope Pius XI in Quadregesimo."

THEATRICAL EMPLOYES OF NEW ENGLAND STRONGLY ENDORSE PRESIDENT'S NRA PROGRAM AND PLEDGE FULL SUPPORT

International Officers Explain Details Concerning Theatrical Code, and Further Means Taken for Legislation to Liberalize Existing Sunday Laws to Permit Showing of Dramatic and Musical Plays.

Worcester, Mass., December 11th. — Unanimous endorsement and pledging their support to President Roosevelt's Recovery program, stirring addresses by President William C. Elliott and Secretary-Treasurer Fred J. Dempsey, of the International Alliance, and proposals for amending existing laws pertaining to Sunday theatrical performances, were the highlights at the semi-annual convention of the New England District Union of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Motion Picture Machine Operators, held at the Hotel Bancroft on Sunday, December 3rd.

As a means for making their action in favor of the President's recovery program effective, the secretary was directed to get in touch with secretaries of local unions representing 6,000 members in the New England district, requesting them to make contacts with their Senators and Congressmen and request them to give the President their undivided support when Congress convenes, as a means for ending present economic conditions.

Much was expected from President Elliott in the way of information concerning the discussion on the Theatrical Code and the Los Angeles situation, and the 150 or more delegates, representing 60 local unions in all parts of New England, left here feeling satisfied that their interests had been well cared for by their international officers.

Coming direct from Washington, where he had been in close touch with matters for several months, President Elliott disclosed many interesting details connected with the code, and showed plainly that had it not been for activities on the part of international officials of unions, Labor would have fared poorly in the establishment of codes.

"Employers were never so thoroughly organized as they are at present," said President Elliott, "and fortified with the best obtainable legal talent, they came to Washington fully prepared to get all they possibly could by establishing the lowest possible minimum wage and to break down established conditions."

He lauded President Roosevelt for the bold and independent manner in which he is defying those who would hinder the progress of the National Recovery Act, and urged the District Union and all affiliated locals to do their utmost in supporting him in his great task of bringing the nation back to normalcy.

In its report relative to liberalizing Sunday laws for making possible the showing of dramatic and musical shows, the legislative committee, through its chairman, Delegate William F. Sheehan of Lynn, reported on the draft of amendments to the existing laws. The report was accepted as progressive. He reported that the Allied Theatre Managers' Association had refused to approve any changes in the present laws.

It was said that the managers who do not want changes are those connected with the moving picture and vaudeville branches and that their opposition is based on the belief that any attempt to secure a more liberal law might result in increased censorship.

It was said the union is seeking the changes in order to make jobs for 1,000 skilled stage workers, and that the proposed changes would include "local option."

Speakers said that every safeguard for the right observance of the Lord's Day is contained in the proposed law. The State Commissioner of Public Safety, Daniel Needham, is given authority to check on the actions of the local authorities.

NO REASON TO BELIEVE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT HAS LOST HIS HEAD IN MUCH-DEBATED MONETARY PROGRAM

Presidential Plan is Same as Tried by British Government and Referred to as "Tory" Newspapers Here as "Solid Statesmanship"—How F. D. Turned the Tables on Britain in Export Trade.

By RAYMOND LONERGAN in LABOR, Official Newspaper of the Railway Brotherhoods.

There is no reason to believe that President Roosevelt has the slightest idea of going on an inflation spree. He continues to stick to his plan to boost the price of gold and beat down the value of the dollar.

That doesn't mean, however, that the President is about to start the printing presses, like Germany did some years ago when it wished to wipe out its war debt.

The fact is that Great Britain has been seeking for the last two years to accomplish the same result as Roosevelt in a little different way and, strangely enough, many of the newspapers which are now expressing alarm over what Roosevelt is doing, hailed the British performance as "solid statesmanship."

England's Experience

The British went off the gold standard in 1931, and deliberately and at great expense forced down the value of the pound.

Most observers thought this would result in an advance in commodity prices in the United Kingdom. But the government, by using extraordinary powers granted by Parliament, succeeded in keeping prices on a fairly even keel.

The principal object of our British friends was to increase their foreign trade.

For example, at one time with $3.50 in American money one could buy an English pound and could erchange that English pound for $4.86 worth of English goods. Naturally, that gave English business men a tremendous advantage over their American competitors in foreign markets.

"F. D." Turns the Tables

In the last few weeks, Mr. Roosevelt has been endeavoring to beat Great Britain at its own game. He has forced down the dollar until it is lower than the pound. The result is that British manufacturers have lost their advantage, and our exports have shown a rather sharp advance.

However, up to date, Mr. Roosevelt's gold policy has not materially affected prices here at home. In other words, he is having about the same experience in that respect as our British friends.

Mr. Roosevelt is being bombarded with advice as to his next step. The inflationists want more money, silver or currency. The international bankers are demanding that he abandon his experiment at once and return to the gold standard and the dear dollar.

Why President Waits

They would be satisfied if he would agree to stabilize the dollar and the pound at figures that are satisfactory to the Bank of England.

Mr. Roosevelt, apparently, believes he holds the winning cards. He feels that the time has not arrived when stabilization would be a good thing for the United States.

Perhaps he is wrong. If so, he will presumably change his course in due time. There is no reason to think he has lost his head or that he contemplates doing any of the crazy things suggested by his opponents.

A frightful lot of loose talk is being indulged in by the advocates of various monetary theories.

Validity of NRA, the AAA and PRA, Sustained by Courts

Conviction today in New York City of an oil filling station firm charged with violating provisions of the petroleum industry code adds another to the numerous actions in which the validity of the National Industrial Recovery Act or of the President's Re-employment Agreement have been sustained.

Imposition of a $400 fine on Hercules Gasoline Filling Stations, Inc., by a New York City Federal District Court shared interest with reports of the decision of a Colorado state court in favor of a waiter who sued his employer to recover minimum wages due under the President's Re-employment Agreement.

The waiter recovered the full amount due him under the minimum wage clause of the PRA ($14.50 a week in this case) despite the fact that it was asserted the restaurant proprietor had entered into a separate contract with his waiters for them to work for lower wages until business should improve.

In awarding the waiter the damages he sought, Judge Frank McDonough declared: "This agreement between the President of the United States and Major Avondale (proprietor of the restaurant which was paying less than minimum wages) was an agreement made for the use and benefit of employes and they are entitled to the benefit of the agreement.

"There is another matter to which I want to call attention, for what it is worth," said Judge McDonough. "That the eighth paragraph of this agreement (PRA) provided that the parties are 'not to use any subterfuge to frustrate the spirit and intent of the agreement, which is, among other things, to increase employment by a universal covenant to remove obstructions to commerce, and to shorten hours and to raise wages for a shorter week to a living basis.'

"Whatever may be the thought of the possibility or probability of the outcome of this movement," Judge McDonough continued, "I believe that as loyal citizens we should try to uphold the hands of the administration, until some court, presumably the Supreme Court of the United States, may say that this whole National Recovery Act is valid and constitutional or unconstithtional and void."

6400 Employes Added to N. Y. Department Stores Under NRA

More than 6,000 new employes have been added to the payrolls of 24 department stores in the New York Metropolitan area since these stores enlisted under the banner of the Blue Eagle, according to a message made public during the week at National Recovery Administration headquarters. This means an annually payroll increase of nearly $7,000,000.

These figures were announced at a mass meeting at Hotel Governor Clinton, New York City, in honor of Grover Whalen, chairman of the New York NRA Compliance Board, arranged by the Retail Stores Executive Association. This encouraging summary of progress in the retail business in New York under the NRA was embodied in a congratulatory telegram sent to the President at Warm Springs, Ga., by James A. Dingivan, president of the association. The telegram follows:

"We, the members of the Retail Stores Executive Association, gathered to honor Mr. Grover Whalen for his splendid efforts in behalf of the NRA, send to you a message of hope and promise for the future operation of the NRA in the Metropolitan district. Statistics presented at the meeting show that 24 department stores in our district have added 6,400 employes and have increased their Annual payrolls $6,886,000. Our congratulations to you for leading the way in accomplishing this most encouraging result."

Chase Nat'l Bank President Condemns Methods of Wiggin

Attorney Ferdinand Pecora, of the Senatorial Investigating Committee, at Washington, is still bringing facts to light bearing on banking and investments. That Wall Street is feeling apprehensive is plainly evident.

That the public has grown chilly to new securities issues is the belief of Winthrop W. Aldrich, president of the far-famed and now internationally touted, Chase National Bank. This bank was the great financial incubator out of which came so many capital stock and bond chickens of disastrous fate.

Mr. Aldrich declares that bank deposit insurance is wrong in principle and that it will drive banks out of the Federal Reserve System. As to the drastic new securities act, which aims at definitely lodging responsibility with the issuers of securities offered to the public, he contends that its provisions are so strict as to frighten capital out of the investment market. Lastly, Mr. Aldrich declares that the uncertainty as to the fixed monetary policy of the government is also tending to stagnate capital investment and extension of loans.

He did, however, condemn the custom of Albert H. Wiggin, formerly of the Chase National Bank, in personally profiting in stock underwritings. Bank officials should receive nothing outside of their regular salaries, declared Mr. Aldrich. This will be bad news to the jockeying bank men who use their bank as a personal cash box—and the public as easy marks—for the commission.

"Hi, You're Doing It Wrong!"

"You Let Us Alone, and We'll Fix It Now! You Get Out of This!" This is What the Men Who Brought The Nation on the Verge of Bankruptcy Are Saying to the President, Just When His Plan is Reviving Country's Business Acumen by Placing Millions of Unemployed Back to Work.

General Hugh S. Johnson, director of the National Recovery Administration, recently spent eight days in the Middle West. His voice was heard by millions of people, all of whom are greatly interested in the immediate future success of the recovery program. General Johnson did not mince words in his speeches at Omaha, Kansas City, and in other cities, and told his hearers just where the fault lies if the NRA is not making quicker progress than it is.

Frankly, and without hesitation, he placed the blame on bankers, industrialists, politicians and others, whose freed for more wealth, power and influence during the period of 12 years brought chaos to the Nation. The following is part of General Johnson's speech in Omaha:

"This desperate condition has been coming upon us for a long time and it was not hard in 1921 to see the handwriting on Belshazzar's Wall. The vast mechanical overcapacity of industry was there to see. The enormous excess productivity of agriculture had just been demonstrated. The fact that the old safeguards against the effect of sudden mass unemployment were gone was patent.

"As a rule, agriculture saw what was coming before our so-called great leaders of finance and industry, although a few of them saw clearly too that there was something terribly wrong with the old system that had made this country great and that, unless we could devise some other and surer means to distribute and consume the vast output of our constantly increasing productive efficiency, there would be a collapse in the country.

"Well, we didn't devise any new way. We only increased our speed in the old destructive direction. We built new factories with many times the capacity of the old and we went head-long into debt for the money to buy those things which our labor alone was unable to buy. We did this to keep these factories going and instead of distributing more of the profits of those factories in wages and dividends and lower prices in order to keep up the consumption of our industrial and farm products, we used those profits to build still greater productive capacity and further upset the balance between production and consumption.

"Something of the same thing was going on on farms. After the war we motorized, and tractorized, and mechanized agriculture—also to produce more—more of every product than we had yet arranged to consume and we also did that on debt.

"To this domestic folly we added a foreign folly. We loaned our money to bankrupt debtors already unable to pay even interest on their debts—unless we loaned them the money to pay it—which we did. We said we were creating a foreign market which would consume everything we could produce but in order to get cheap costs to do that we said we could do nothing for the farmer's prices that would raise them above world prices. So we sent our money, our natural farm and other resources, and all that we could produce, abroad as fast as ships could carry it—and that made more production and knocked the very substance out of our vast home farm market, and thus reduced still further our power to consume our own products.

"In this process we built up a mountain of debt greater than all of the value of all our assets today, destroyed completely the balance of production and consumption in this country, ruined our agriculture, destroyed our industry, broke our banks, put half our population on public charity and brought our country to a more desperate state than any war ever had brought or ever could bring it. It took twelve years to do this and then when the whole thing collapsed in a heap of hopeless ruin we dumped the whole mess into the lap of Franklin D. Roosevelt and there was not one voice in all of finance, all of industry, all of commerce, all of agriculture that was raised to offer any help or plan to him as to what he was to do with it. All the great captains suddenly became corporals and privates and said—'Here—take it and save us—we don't know what to do.'

"Well, he rolled up his sleeves and pitched in. In seven months he has patched up almost 25 per cent of this wreck of twelve years blundering, and now what do you hear?

"Back East, from the financial rabbit warren to which the great leaders had dived for cover, you hear—

"Hi, you're doing it wrong. You let us alone and we'll fix it now. You get out of this!'

"When you ask what they propose you find they propose exactly the course that brought the wreck. 'Farm Relief is economically unsound—government has no place in business—spread the work but do not raise any wages (the most vicious form of forced contribution known to man)—you can't remedy the social ills by political measures—industry will take care of its own workers—agriculture must seek its level—let the banking system alone—return the Federal Reserve to banking control—stop lending money to farmers—.'

"I could go on for an hour. They are the same old voices and the same old words. They learn nothing and forget nothing. In view of what they have done to this country, it is the most impudent and audacious chorus ever chanted.

"But this sort of thing is not confined to the financial East. In my tour of the West I hear another kind of cry:

"'Here you've been all of seven months returning a ruined agriculture to pre-war prosperity and we are not there yet. We don't like the way you are doing it. What do you mean by doing anything for industry until agriculture is clear out of the woods? We'll get ours if we have to starve every town in the country. We want you to do this thing our way or not at all!'

"In the meantime, in certain industrial areas, labor—which on its own figures has seen a greater reemployment than ever happened at a similar time in history and has secured the benefit of more improvements, is striking, protesting industrial codes, and generally raising Cain. Also a certain few sections of the Press, which have just begun to know what it feels like to have circulation and advertising increases, and to get within striking distance of profit figures, some of these also attack the whole program on the fantastic ground that it threatens the freedom of the press.

"How can memories be so short and faith so fickle and wise men so everlastingly dumb? Seven months from disaster in one direction and nobody knows ho weasily we could lapse into it tomorrow in another—seven months from the complete collapse of a twelve-year ruin—yet a few of those who had no thought of self-help when the thunder roared are now jostling the pilot's arm!

"The striking farmer in Wisconsin is playing squarely into the hands of the Wall street types so recently exposed by the Senate Committee. Of course those farmers do not want to return to the twelve-year policy of 'let agriculture seek its level,' or the leadership of the men who think that way—but that is the way they are headed just the same.

"The striking miner or silk worker does not want to throw away his gains and go back to unregulated exploitation—but that is exactly the banner under which he is unconsciously marching. The sniping few newspapers don't wont to see 4,000,000 re-employed workers thrown back on the streets and all industrial gains erased, but they would rather see the Recovery Program abandoned than to accord the few sacrifices asked of them.

"What is all this fantastic whirling against our own best interests? It is the inability of a few people to make sacrifices at a desperate time and for the common good and that is all it is!

"Military history has shown that battle is not the most effective test of chivalry and manhood—a siege is. There is little excitement and less glory. Rations are slowly cut down so that men may share and live. Then petty, mean and cheating hoarding show up—nerves that cannot take it—hidden selfishness in figures hitherto covered with medals and shining repute, supplications for surrender—treachery, desertion and treason.

"Well, this is a siege—a terrible siege—and in these few instances, it is running true to form. But these few instances are not even straws to show the way the wind blows with the great, brave mass of the American people.

"They know that Franklin Roosevelt proposed a plan to help every depressed element of our population—industrial, agricultural, financial. They know that in seven months it has already lifted us about one-fourth of the way to the correction of a twelve-years' blunder and the crash and ruin thereof. They know that it has and will put hundreds of millions of dollars into rural work-producing projects such as roads, that farm prices and tota payrolls are inseparable in their rise and fall, and that all of these great efforts are just about to concentrate their combined strength on a further upward push to both."

Attendance at union meetings these days is the most important duty you have to perform. Attend to that duty ahead of every other duty you may have on hand. The union member who never misses a union meeting nowadays is the kind of material that makes for success. Get busy and stay busy!

NRA

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PRESIDENT, IN PROCLAMATION, WARNS AGAINST PATRONIZING BOOTLEGGERS AND RETURN OF OLD SALOON SYSTEM

By Proclamation on Tuesday evening, President Franklin D. Roosevelt officially announced the end of the prohibition law. At the same time, he enjoined upon all citizens the duty of refraining from patronizing bootleggers and specifically warned against a return of the old saloon.

By this act, the President stands justified and vindicated in his stand immediately taken by him after the Democratic National Convention in Chicago last year, when he declared, as the nominee of that party: "From this hour, prohibition is doomed." A thunder of applause greeted this prophetic utterance.

On the other hand, the Republican platform on the repeal of prohibition was such that the best minds in the country, Democratic and Republican, and all others, could make nothing of it but fish and flesh, everything and nothing. Upon that wriggling evasion the Republican party went down to deserved defeat. Today, national prohibition is dead, though a few States with ultra moral conscientiousness and a lamentable lack of practical considerations may still obstinately cling to the shadow of the dry law.

During all the period of national prohibition the American Federation of Labor never ceased its official opposition to this unwarranted infringement upon the common rights of the common people. Its position is the same today, when sheer force of circumstances had demonstrated to the country at large the utter impracticability of trying to coerce a whole nation.

The next logical step is to open the prison doors and liberate those hapless victims of an unreasonable law. Since the buying, selling or conveying of liquor is no longer a crime, it is but common justice to cease punishing men for a blind miscarriage of justice.

Free the prohibition offenders, in the name of reason, justice and respect for the spirit of law and freedom.

Constitutionality of National Recovery Act Backed by Jurist

In the opinion of Justice William Harman Black of the New York State Supreme Court, the National Industrial Recovery Act is in entire accord with both the spirit and letter of the Federal Constitution. For his legal grounds, Justice Black said he relied on Article 1 of Section 8 of the Constitution, which confers on Congress the power "to provide for the common defense and the general welfare."

Justice Black gave his opinion at a dinner of the Phi Delta Phi Fraternity of Columbia University Law School at the Princeton Club. After his speech, the students and faculty members present adopted a resolution endorsing his views.

In amplification of his opinion that the Recovery Act does not controvert the Constitution of the United States, Justice Black said:

"A state or a government under a charter or a Constitution too rigid to allow the succor of its people in times of distress does not deserve to endure. Such a government is the victim of creeping paralysis, and is simply 'dead and don't know it.'

"Congress has power to declare war. Can it be seriously contended that Congress can declare war and can not provide for peace by preventing cutthroat competition?

"Every government has the inherent right to provide for the commonweal and do just what our government is doing today. The only thing that ought to keep a government from looking out for itself is some technical provision in its charter or Constitution."

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AUGUSTA

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS OF TEXTILE WORKERS' 1778 FOLLOWED BY DANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT; 300 ATTENDED

Dancing, a special program of vocal and instrumental selections, tap-dancing and refreshments, followed the installation of officers recently elected by Textile Workers' Local 1778, at an open meeting held on Thanksgiving Eve, and at which more than 300 were present.

Among those present were officers of Textile Locals from Waterville and Fairfield, who assisted in conducting the installation ceremonies and to enjoy the festivities which followed.

Principal among the speakers following the installation, was President R. E. Daggett of the Maine State Federation of Labor, who after extending congratulations and best wishes to the newly-elected officers, took occasion to remind them as to their serious responsibilities and the duties incumbent upon them for making their tenure in office successful.

"In accepting an official post in a trade union," President Daggett told them, "some men do so without realizing the seriousness and responsibilities attached to such positions. They are sometimes unmindful of the fact that while in office they are acting as the representatives of their international union, and that as a consequence the value of the organization as a unit of the national Labor movement is greatly dependent on their activities.

"The success of a local union is greatly dependent upon the honesty, ability and the conscientiousness of its leading officials, as well as their whole-hearted willingness to serve. When this is fully demonstrated to the membership there can be no question as to the latter's loyalty and willingness to co-operate.

"These are momentous times," he said, "when the mettle of those who assume leadership in local unions is put to a severe test. With the coming of the NRA, which imposes new responsibilities on working people as a means for making it a success, all possible means must be taken for holding largely attended meetings, and by this means keep the members thoroughly acquainted with all matters pertaining to their duties.

"Most helpful in this regard," Mr. Daggett said, "is affiliation with the State Federation of Labor, and central bodies, and for all members to receive The Maine State Labor News, the official newspaper of the Federation.

The following officers were installed by President Daggett: President, Ernest Geer; vice president, Arlie M. Beal; recording secretary, Arthur Smith; financial secretary, Ronoldo Poulin; treasurer, Louis Langevin; conductor, Hippolite Talbot; warden, Simeon Mador.

Douglas Shoe Co. "Went the Limit" to Uphold Contract

In a letter to Secretary Clarence R. Burgess, Vice President and General Manager Paul C. Wolfer of the W. L. Douglas Shoe Co., of Brockton, says the company "went the limit" in upholding their contract with the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, and refers to statements by President John J. Mara of the B. & S. W. I. U. and President William Green of the A. F. of L., who while discussing the Brockton situation on the floor of the convention recently held in Washington, promised the full support of the Federation to the Douglas Co.

In his letter, Mr. Wolfer believes that in view of the company's willingness to wage a 10-week fight for the purpose of upholding their union stamp agreement with the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, and the large amount of unfavorable newspaper publicity suffered as a consequence, it is worthy of the same support from loyal trade unionists that the company has enjoyed for the past 35 years, during which a continuous and concerted drive was made to advertise Douglas shoes as union made and bearing the stamp of the B. & S. W. I. U.

Enclosed in the letter is a circular issued on October 14th, which says: "Our contract with the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union does not expire until next year. Every legal advice we have secured so far confirms the fact that this contract is legal. It cannot be broken except through an illegal act or with the consent of both parties. Not having secured this consent, we, the directors of the W. L. Douglas Company, consider it our duty to continue to uphold the unassailable high standard of business ethics of our company for the past 57 years, and honor this contract to its expiration."

To the credit of the Douglas Co., it can be said that it was the only company in Brockton which held out against the repudiation of its contract with the B. & S. W. I. U. and fought shoulder-to-shoulder against capitulating to the outside union during the strike, in which the latter was victorious.

C. L. U. to Hold Benefit Concert and Dance on Thursday

The first of a Winter program of entertainments to be conducted by the Augusta Central Labor Union will be held in City Hall on Thursday evening, December 14.

No pains or expense have been spared by the committee in charge to make the affair one that will stamp its first effort as an outstanding event in trade union circles, and a large attendance is anticipated.

With enthusiasm manifested as it has been during the past three months or since local organizing work was marked by the addition of several local unions, and material increases in established locals, the committee is hoping its initial effort will prove successful, and offer encouragement for the fulfillment of its Winter program of entertainments.

Painters' Local 541 Prepares Forum for Winter Months

A special committee named at last week's regular meeting of Augusta Painters and Decorators' Local 541 will prepare a program of subjects to be discussed at meetings to be held during the Winter months.

The plan is to set aside half-hour periods, at which speakers will be invited to discuss important subjects, and a specified time set aside for general discussion following each address.

The committee has already started its quest for speakers and expects to have its program in readiness for announcement at the next meeting.

DO SOMETHING!

Remember, you are a part of your union and if you are not doing something for it you are a deadhead and of no value to it. Do something! Do all that you can! You owe that much to yourself and your family.

CWA Giving Some Relief But Politics Rules in Allotting Jobs

"If politics could be kept out and the local CWA administration given full leeway in giving out jobs, it is generally thought there would be less dissatisfaction experienced over the manner in which jobs are being allotted here," writes a member of a local building trade union.

"The situation is about the same as in other cities, where I understand that if a fellow is minus political pull, he doesn't get a chance at a job.

"When the project was about to be started," he writes, "members of building trades unions were given to understand they could expect a fair share on building and repair work. No one dreamed that it would be necessary to secure the assistance of politicians; all it was thought would be necessary was to furnish a certificate of fitness to do the work when making application.

"But, much to our surprise, we find that men without experience but with political influence, are getting jobs as skilled mechanics, while we, who have been out of steady employment as mechanics for several years, are still walking the streets.

"It's a tough break, I'm telling you," he says, in closing.

State Federa'n Praised For Stand Against The Sales Tax Plan

In a letter received by Secretary Clarence R. Burgess on November 23, Clarence Senior, executive secretary of the Socialist Party of America, complimented the Maine State Labor News for the stand taken against the sales tax and took occasion to call attention to the attitude of his party on this subject, as contained in a pamphlet issued by Mayor Daniel W. Hoan of Milwaukee, which is printed in part, as follows:

"An Unaccepted Challenge

"I once issued a challenge to debate with anyone in our city, who knew something about municipal government, the proposition that the city of Milwaukee performs public services at from 20 per cent to 50 per cent cheaper than any private firm could perform them. Needless to say, no one accepted this challenge."

This is the core of Mayor Daniel W. Hoan's answer to those who wish to cut costs of government ("Taxes and Tax Dodgers," published by the Socialist Party of America, 549 Randolph St., Chicago—single copies by mail .10).

Item by item, Mayor Hoan, who has held his present position as head of the city government of Milwaukee since 1916, shows the advantage of government over private enterprise. "Bad as some of our city governments are," he says, "you get more for your tax dollar than you do for any other dollar you spend."

With this stand as his foundation, Mayor Hoan launches a devastating attack against the "tax dodgers," including specifically the organizations now fighting to cut taxes. His exposure of these groups is two-fold. First, he answers the arguments they advance, then he shows up the personal interests they represent. "In local affairs," he states, "it is nearly always the real estate swindler who runs the taxpayers' leagues."

Some Typical Quotations:

"Racketeering in private business far exceeds that in public affairs, even in the most corrupt of cities. Where is the civil service examination for the incompetent relation of the boss who sits with his feet on the desk behind the door marked 'Third Assistant Vice President'?"

"When business men began to fail because of their collective stupidity, they looked about for a scape goat and they chose the government."

"We are still imposing taxes on the basis of a minimum of public assistance to our most exploited class."

"If the sheriff catches a thief with stolen goods, the goods are returned to the owner. We Socialists want high income and inheritance taxes for the same purpose."

Voters Criticised for Killing Referendum Intended for Relief

Nobody likes taxes, but since they must come, it behooves everybody to study how they may be best applied so as to benefit the most people and inconvenience the least number.

In this vein, G. F. Ashby sets forth his views at some length in a recent issue of the Fort Fairfield Review. He tells of the opportunity which the people of Maine let pass unheeded this Fall to place the burden on those best able to bear it. As a result of this negative action, says Mr. Ashby, the people will have to bear a $3,000,000 tax—brought on by themselves!

He calls attention to the fact that last September two tax measures were submitted to the people in a Referendum. One was an excise tax and the other, a tax on intangible property. The voters rejected both proposals. They also rejected a provision to enable the State to increase its borrowing power by $2,000,000.

Mr. Ashby states the voters were frightened into thinking that the consumers themselves would have to pay the added tax, and criticises the action of the voters who, three years ago, voted on a referendum for a $20,000,000 State bond issue to build highways, but last September refused to vote $2,000,000 to relieve human suffering and to pay its just debts.

The correspondent concludes by reminding the public that the State of Maine must have revenue and when the voters refuse to tax large interests, such as holders of bonds and other intangibles, they are simply taxing themselves.

Koveleski Elected President of N. Y. Labor Federation

New York, Dec. 11.—Emanuel Koveleski, of Rochester, was chosen president of the New York State Federation of Labor to succeed John Sullivan, who resigned because of his duties with the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. The choice of a president was made from the 13 vice presidents of the Federation. Mr. Koveleski has been vice president for 20 years.

On assuming office, Mr. Koveleski declared he would use every effort to have the 1934 Legislature enact laws for compulsory unemployment insurance with a minimum payment of $15 per week and for the 30-hour week in all public works. He said the Federation would also use its best efforts to secure the ratification of the child labor amendment to the Federal Constitution.

BANGOR

Bangor Carpenters Announce Election of New Officers

Secretary John H. Ambrose of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local 621, reports business as being anything but brisk, but expressed the hope that proposed CWA projects may assist in providing work for quite a few members.

Officers of Bangor Local 621, are as follows: President, Harry Potter; vice president, Amos Simpson; recording secretary, John H. Ambrose; financial secretary, W. A. Crocker; treasurer, John H. Ambrose; sergeant-at-arms, John Russell.

Trustees, William Ford, Guy Lewis and Robert Turner.

Bricklayers' 211 Elect Officers for Ensuing Year

Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' Local 211, at the meeting held Friday, December 1st, at 26 Post Office Square, elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, Harry Severance; vice president, Volney Hawes; financial and recording secretary and treasurer, F. C. Sturtevant; deputy, George White; alternate, Volney Hawes.

Arbitration committee—Harry Severance, Franz Blanchard, John McPherson and Walter Sturtevant.

Grange Opposes Sales Tax at Meeting Held in Bangor

The sales tax is something to which the Maine State Grange is opposed and has made it a matter of record. Instead, an income tax is favored as offering a more equitable system of taxation. This action was a feature of the annual convention of the Grange, which was held in Bangor City Hall recently. Lewiston made an offer, for the next annual convention and the proposal was referred to the executive committee.

The action taken by the Grange agrees with that which has long been adopted by the American Federation of Labor, whose opposition to the sales tax is a matter of nation-wide knowledge. It favors taxing large incomes rather than imposing a blanket tax upon the masses of the wage earners and the community at large.

In explaining its position in detail, the Grange gave the gist of its conviction that notwithstanding legislative defeats in the past, they still held to the belief that a tax based upon income, earned or accumulated, should be added to the present system of taxation.

In other words, the man with an income of $5,000 to $50,000 or upwards a year is better able to pay an income tax than a day laborer who can scarcely earn enough for a bare sustenance. That is the core and essence of the higher income tax movement.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

WINDY CRITICS OF NAT'L RECOVERY ACT DERIDED BY GENERAL JOHNSON

Business Bankrupts Yell for Government Raft and Then "Kick Everybody Else Off While They Remain in Safety," Recovery Administrator Says in Reply to Attack on NRA.

General Hugh S. Johnson, administrator of the National Recovery Act, derided the groups of reactionary business men and politicians who are opposing President Roosevelt's Recovery program in an address to an audience of 20,000 in Louisville, Ky., last week.

These interests are still intoxicated with the idea that they can carry on with the traditional jungle methods of cut-throat practices, with each concern attempting to stifle its competitors by methods of commercial violence, and the wage and salary earners paying the penalty in lower living standards and wholesale unemployment.

He declared that self-regulation of industry under the form of Government supervision set out in the National Recovery Act "need not interfere in the slightest degree with such dearly held American institutions as individualism, competition and liberty of speech and action."

Mentioning Senator Hatfield of West Virginia and Congressman James M. Beck of Pennsylvania among the outspoken opponents of President Roosevelt's program, General Johnson said he had no fear of "such windy resistance," and added:

"When you hear somebody say that we do not need NRA or would have gotten just as far out of the depression without it, or that it should not be abandoned, it would be a good thing to ask what that person was saying in 1928, 1929 or even on March 4, 1933. On that date, business was shipwrecked and was yelling for a raft, and when the Government gave them the raft, the sole idea of these few individuals is to kick everybody else off while they remain in safety."

BAN AGAINST GERMAN

(Continued from Page 1)

many would be to condone the brutality of a regime which has received the condemnation of the entire civilized world.

Watch for the label "Made in Germany."

England, Belgium and Holland Join in Ban Against German Goods

News received from Labor federations in England, Belgium and Holland by the American Federation of Labor, state action taken in those countries is definite and that every possible means are being taken to make the boycott against German goods effective.

In the interest of the boycott in England, it is proposed to arrange an exhibit in London where samples of German goods and of British and other substitutes will be shown side by side, and every community will be canvassed to stop the purchase of German goods.

The Trade Union Federation in Brussels, Belgium, recently issued detailed lists of articles to be boycotted, mentioning some 400 trade-mark articles easy to recognize and specifying substitute articles which can be used in place of those boycotted.

From Amsterdam comes word that a "General Committee for Defense Against Terrorism and Persecution" has been established to systematize organized labor's boycott against German goods and services as a protest against the outlawing of the German labor movement and the atrocious persecution of German labor leaders by Chancellor Hitler's Nazi dictatorship.

Chancellor Hitler's Anti-Labor Terrorism Now in Full Action

The extreme brutality, ending in murder, which characterizes Chancellor Hitler's Nazi war against prominent persons in the German labor movement is strikingly shown by the victimization of Philip Schneidermann and his family.

A picture of this victimization was given to the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor by Miss Selma M. Borchardt, a delegate of the American Federation of Teachers, who favored the boycott of German goods and services as a protest against Hitler's wanton destruction of the German labor movement and his equally wanton persecution of trade union leaders. Miss Borchardt, who had recently returned from a visit to Germany, said:

"The crime of Philip Schneidermann was not even the crime of birth, because he was born a Christian. But he had sinned: he had tried to keep Germany a Republic. He it was who helped to establish a Republic of Germany. His sin was that he believed in the form of government to which you and I subscribe, and he thought that if he ran away his wife and children would be safer.

"When he went away they got his family. They drowned his son, they took his daughter, and broke every major bone in her body, and they caught her husband. They did all this because Philip Schneidermann believed in the republican form of government and said so.

"I did not hear of the 'crime' of Philip Schneidermann and the punishment meted out to him from an enemy of Germany. I got it from a representative of the Hitler government seated in a compartment with me going to Spain. He boasted of it. He said: 'Take the case of Philip Schneidermann—he thought he had gotten away, but he had not. We got his family, and they know now what discipline means.' Then with pride in his new culture he told me that the Nazis had certainly finished the Schneidermann family."

The unparalleled treatment, not stopping at torture and murder, which Hitler and his Nazi brutes meted out to Schneidermann and his family has been duplicated in innumerable instances against other labor leaders.

It was his record of brutality and persecution which lead the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor to unanimously declare a boycott of German goods and services until the German workers are freed from the despotism under which they now live and are given the right to reorganize their independent trade union movement.

DO WE WANT THAT?

In his speech at Atlanta, Ga., last week, Gen. Hugh S. Johnson referred to the blind leaders of the blind, who lured their country into the 1929 madness and destruction.

"You will find," he said, "that they speak for the system that existed prior to March 4, 1933. You will find that they propose to scrap everything that has been done since, and to let the whole structure of recovery collapse." Continuing, he said:

"Do we want that? Do we want the sale of fake foreign and domestic securities under the appearance of stability of some of our greatest financial houses? Do we want million dollar bonuses in industry — unchecked use of depositors' money to support such Florida booms on the Stock Exchange as the 1929 fiasco? Do we want a system of banking practices which can wreck the life-time savings of practically the whole people—or an industrial system which can create the practical destitution of half our people?

"The unemployment of no less than 13,000,000 breadwinners is not what we want.

"Do we want an economical and political system which for 12 years can witness the progressive degradation of agriculture to the point of absolute ruin and refuse even to consider an effective stop to the process? Do we want to go back to the philosophy about extreme depression that the thing to do is nothing at all—just sit and take it while our economic structure rattles down about our ears and the beams of our political structure are creaking? Do we want to go down to Endor and call up the black and hideous phantom of early March to come back and make their home with us again—starvation, collapse and ruin?"

U. S. Army Must Eat American Products, Says Pres. Roosevelt

New York importers who make large profits by purchasing food supplies abroad and selling them to the United States army at fancy prices, abandoned their campaign against the new War Department regulation barring the purchase of all foreign foodstuffs, including coffees and sugars, not processed in the United States, on receipt of official information that the rule would be rigidly enforced.

Written into the last army appropriation bill with the support of the American Federation of Labor, the original provision stipulated that, except in cases where domestic prices were "unreasonably high," the supplies for the soldiers must be of American origin.

The executive order issued by President Roosevelt broadened the phraseology of the law by eliminating the "unreasonably high" qualification and making the purchase of home-produced supplies compulsory.

The New York importers raised the cry that President Roosevelt's order would deprive the soldiers of olives and bananas, which come from Italy and Central America. The Quartermaster General's office stopped this clatter by the significant statement that olives are produced in large quantities in California and that bananas are a more or less staple crop in both Puerto Rico and the Philippines.

President Roosevelt's order is a part of the recovery program and is primarily intended to assist American farmers and fruit growers in their efforts to make a living for themselves and their families by their own labor, even though it does crimp the profits of importers engaged in the questionable practice of flooding America with food supplies produced by low-wage workers in Europe and Central America.

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FIRST NATIONAL STORES INC

HARRIMAN AND HIS COHORTS LEFT IT WITH F. D. TO CLEAN UP THEIR AWFUL MESS! NOW THEY'RE FINDING FAULT!

While Admitting the NRA Has Done Something, U. S. Chamber of Commerce President Thinks the Presidential Program Too Radical and Would Have It Amended —Hits at Section 7a, Stating That Workers Can Secure Their Own Without Help of Unions.

Speaking at the famous old city of Atlanta, Ga., this week, on the Agricultural Adjustment and National Industrial Recovery Acts, Henry I. Harriman, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, blows hot and cold on both hands—and finally winds up a restrained criticism of the general N. R. A. program with the "hope" that it may come out all right!

While he talks in impressive polysyllables a "meow" is heard from the bag in which he holds the cat of the depression breed. He is careful to say, at the outset, that he "believes in giving credit where credit is due—and in offering constructive criticism where such action seems desirable." He also prudently admits that "it is entirely inconceivable that these two important measures should ever be entirely abandoned. Self preservation demands that an orderly economic life replace the chaotic business and industrial conditions prevailing for the past five years."

That is the loud meow of pussy in the bag: "The general chaos which has prevailed for the last five years."

Well, just what was Mr. Harriman and his super-minded associates doing all during those five years? Why did they leave it all to Franklin D. Roosevelt, who has been in office but a few months? The only reasonable answer is, that the insiders got all there was to get, while the getting was good. When the house of cards fell down about their heads, they threw up their hands and came begging the new administration to save them from the results of their own reckless folly.

Mr. Harriman admits that "the codes, generally, have done much good; but some of them have to be amended." Cut-throat competition is barred out and the plea of the chiseling employer that he cannot compete with the sweat-shop man is now destroyed. One uniform code has killed off the labor exploiter, the child labor employer, and the starvation-wage dispenser. If the N. R. A. did nothing else but this, it has revolutionized and fumigated industry, to its own good health and future profit.

To labor, Mr. Harriman advances a few stern admonitions that somehow tang of Judge Parker, of injunction fame. He wrongly declares that "there is no justification for statements by labor that only through affiliated trade unions can the worker obtain the benefits of the Recovery Act." Patting his white vest and winking at the bankers in the front seats, he continues: "Labor has gained much from the Act. Its leaders owe it to the public, and to themselves, to exercise great restraint in the calling of strikes and the creation of industrial discord."

Mr. Harriman does not explain how one single poor worker can presume to attempt to barter and plead before a corporation counsel or a board of directors? And if he could, his case would be one in 10,000. And that would entail 10,000 such conferences. An absurdity upon its face. Moreover, the inside-controlled company union is the inevitable alternative of the unorganized man.

In concluding his muslin-strained speech, Mr. Harriman deprecates, with commendable restraint, the applying of force or coercion on the part of the Government to secure compliance. He thought the codes were to be purely voluntary. He claims that such pressure has alienated support for the Industrial Recovery Act. It has, perhaps, with Henry Ford and others of that class. But it has not with Edward A. Filene and men of his vision, patriotic consciousness and real practical business brains. Mr. Harriman might as well play ball as sulk on the bench. The game is on!

Auto Sales for Oct. Increased 300 p. c.

Figures just made public by the Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce show that sales of automobiles during October nearly trebled those of October, 1932. A total of 138,475 vehicles, including passenger cars, trucks and taxicabs were sold by factories in the United States last month as against only 48,702 in October of last year. The figures were tabulated from statistics supplied by 207 manufacturers.

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DECEMBER, 1933

Work, Not Charity At Last

Step Forward in Civilized and Intelligent Handling of Relief Problems.

Labor's oft reiterated demand for work for the unemployed, not charity, is at last put into effect in the Federal Government's plan for taking 4,000,000 men from relief rolls this Winter and giving them employment on a nation-wide civil works program.

The latest Government move is a long step forward in civilized and intelligent handling of the relief problem. It is a big contribution to the maintenance of national morale. Nothing is so demoralizing as charity. It saps initiative and self-respect and can only be justified if there is no other possible way to give help. Fortunately, the Administration has found a way to remove men from charity lists and give them the work, which they have long desired and sought in vain.

One of the best features of the plan is that it will end supervision of millions by relief organizations. It is emphasized that the Administration is determined that American citizens shall no longer be compelled to live under the auspices of charitable agencies. "That means," Federal Relief Administrator Hopkins said, "that investigations will stop and we need no longer pry into the personal and private lives of these people."

The plan is indeed a "fundamental change" in the Federal program to deal with the depression, as President Roosevelt said, with safeguards to prevent it from being used in any way to depress wage and working standards, it should prove of immeasurable benefit to the nation.

AND NOW IT'S FASCISM IN AUSTRIA

Much has been heard of the vigorous fight waged against German Fascism in Austria by the Austrian Chancellor, Dollfuss. It is true that Dollfuss has fought Hitler's brand of Fascism at every turn, but he has a private brand of his own which seems just about as bad as the German variety. Dollfuss aims at a state in which democracy will be virtually non-existent and the masses of the people will do as they are told. In pursuance of his aim, the Chancellor has warred on trade unions and other democratic organizations that he doesn't like.

Reporting on the situation in Austria, the International Federation of Trade Unions throws light on Dollfuss' tactics, saying:

"Arrests and persecutions are continuing in Austria. Meetings are broken up on the most trivial pretexts; persons distributing broad-sheets are condemned to eight months' imprisonment as if they were hardened criminals. Tyranny is rampant. An attempt is already being made to suppress the trade unions; the Policemen's Union which, though not a member of the national centre, yet holds the same views, has been dissolved on account of 'the way in which its journal was written.'"

The I. F. T. U. further reports that the highest representative bodies of Austria are being suppressed, exactly as in Germany.

The Golden Rule Not Oppression

President Says This Must Be Guide and Standard of Justice Between Man and Man

Speaking over a nation-wide hook-up recently, President Roosevelt dwelt with many of the main problems of the day. The occasion was the annual meeting of the Federal Council of Churches, held in Washington in celebration of the 25th anniversary of that organization.

Specifically referring to lynching, the President said, in part: "We do not excuse those in high places, or in low, who condone lynch law." At the same time, he admitted that "the judicial function for obtaining quick and certain justice has fallen into a sad state of disrepair."

Reading between the lines, these two statements can only mean that the people will take the law into their own hands when they lose confidence in the courts. Kidnaping, followed by murder, provoked the California lynching to which the President indirectly referred.

The welfare of the masses, rather than the opulance of the favored and privileged few, is the object for which this government is now striving. What is wanted, he declared, is real prosperity for 120 millions of people, not a prosperity for the top of the pyramid, alone. He upheld the principle of fair wages and fair profits, but contended that this must not be accomplished by pushing down or holding down one's neighbor. The Golden Rule, not oppression, must be the guide and standard of justice between man and man.

As to the churches, he assumed their non-interference in governmental affairs while soliciting their cooperation in promoting the ideals of justice and humanity.

A RELIC OF FEUDALISM

President Edward Flore of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers and Bartenders' International Alliance, gave the unfair and unjust tipping system a well-merited trouncing at the hearing on the proposed restaurant code. Denouncing a provision in the code which would virtually compel the public to pay a large proportion of the industry's wage bill, Mr. Flore referred to the tipping system as a relic of feudalism, a disgraceful thing, an unfair practice. The union, he said, prefers a fair and directly paid wage and that no such wage is proposed and "we despair of being able to secure it at this time. But in its absence, it is the height of unfairness to propose that those who have been compelled to depend upon tips for their living should not be deprived of that necessary sustenance by an industry which has throughout its whole history recognized and fostered that system."

The tipping system has no place among free men, yet it endures because of the medieval outlook of the restaurant and hotel industry. The proposal denounced by Mr. Flore provides that gratuities shall be deducted from the amount of the minimum wage until 50 per cent of the minimum wage shall have been deducted. This means that the public would pay half of the minimum wage. This is an astounding proposal, which deserves no consideration from the NRA.

Peace Treaties and National Debts

Violation of Pledges by Japan, and Withdrawal From League of Nations by Germany, Shows Little Faith Between Nations.

For some months past, the air has been filled with talk about disarmament. Conferences between the leading nations of Europe have recently been held and it soon developed that one and all cherished a deep and abiding distrust of each other. The conference adjourned, indefinitely, and all that had been accomplished was a little mutual enlightenment between nation and nation as to their underlying passions and motives—which had hitherto been half-concealed.

But, considering that Japan has violated no less than four pledges of peace agreements, and that Germany has withdrawn from the League, it is evident that when national interest is involved the first thought of a nation is for its present safety, not its treaty obligations and commitments. In others words, treaties are made to be kept—if safe and agreeable; otherwise, they are but "scraps of paper." This was demonstrated in 1914, in the case of Germany. It should have opened the eyes of the world to the fatuity of paper promises—made to secure some temporary advantage, but which are not meant to be kept if it endangers the national safety.

And speaking of good faith between nations, France has twice defaulted on her war debt payments to this country, as has Italy and Great Britain. What faith and confidence can be reposed in people, or nations, that break their official word of honor in money matters? If we are going to be deceived, as a debtor, is it wise or safe to trust the national defense and security to such treaty-breaking nations? Common sense would tell us "No!" This repudiation of the war debts, while a tremendous money loss, if it opens our eyes to the danger of relying on treaty promises, will save our country from dire peril in the future. The making of new treaties with repudiating nations is dangerous and disloyal to this country. We can, possibly, afford to lose the six billions of dollars involved. We cannot afford to risk the national peace and security on the faith and pledge of nations that regard debt obligations as mere scraps of paper. That is the lesson of the collapse of the disarmament conference.

HITLER CONTINUES FOOLISH COURSE

Adolf Hitler is determined to continue his anti-Jewish campaign, Berlin dispatches say. His Minister of Economics, Dr. Kurt Schmitt, wiser and more far-sighted than the Nazi boss, sought to show Hitler the supreme foolishness of his determination to oust all Jews from key positions in German industry and business. But Herr Hitler thinks he knows more than Schmitt and stuck to his determination, despite the fact that Schmitt told him that ousting of Jewish executives was slowing up German industry.

Hitler seems impervious to reason on some matters and he apparently has made up his mind to dismiss all Jews, no matter how valuable their services may be. Germany is suffering from the Nazi's anti-Jewish policy and will suffer more unless it is changed. But her suffering may be her salvation, rousing her in the end to get rid of the Nazi despotism.

Passing of the Noble Experiment

Action of State Grange in Opposing Repeal and In Favor of Retaining Dry Law, Not In Line With Progressive Thought.

National prohibition has now been repealed. The vote was overwhelming and left no doubt in the mind of any sane person that the country had resolved to get rid of the noble experiment—which piled up an annual Governmental expense of a billion dollars. Moreover, Maine was the thirty-seventh State to add its repeal vote to the nation-wide repudiation of the dry law.

Governor Brann worked hard for repeal and, as the Chief Executive of the State, finds himself in hearty accord with a majority of the voters. He desires that the liquor business be so conducted as to eliminate the bootlegger and also the saloon.

Notwithstanding all this, the State Grange has just voted, as an organization, against repeal and in favor of retaining the present State dry laws in Maine. In other words, while the State is nationally wet, it would still cling to the local prohibitory laws, if the Grange had its way. Nothing more absurd or contradictory could well be imagined.

But the people may be depended upon to reaffirm their will as lately expressed at the polls. The Grange should post up on the story of King Canute, who would command the incoming tide to stop! Theirs is a parallel case—and will have a like futile result.

THE DEADLINE AT 30?

It is said to be almost impossible for an unemployed man of 50 nowadays to get employment, no matter how skilled he may be. In industry it is hard for a man of 40 to get a job.

In some places, when closed factories re-open and employers can have their pick of all ages, they refuse those over 30 years old. This may be a natural policy, if vigor and freshness are preferred to experience and steadiness, and if the matter is looked at from the usual standpoint of "private capital" doing business for "competitive profit."

It may be the "business-like" thing to choose employes in the same impersonal way that one would choose horses, cows or sheep. It creates, however, awkward social complications. There are limits to human patience.

It becomes a practical question how patiently the growing numbers of men and women between 30 and 60 will endure this situation. And aside from any direct action on their part, there can be no doubt that society as a whole, somehow, will have to carry the burden of its unemployed and unemployable members.

How will it be done? Will the young workers between 20 and 30 have to provide old age pensions for all the rest? Or will wealth be taxed out of existence to support this vast idleness? Or will our economic order decide, after all, to provide living jobs for workers at least until middle age?

LAW AND ORDER

Which is America to have, law and order, or mob rule and anarchy?

The question is brought into the national spotlight by the San Jose, Calif., lynching and the open approval given it by Gov. Rolph and by the action of Gov. Ritchie of Maryland in sending troops to arrest the lynchers of a Negro at Princess Ann.

If we are to have lynch law, as advocated by Gov. Rolph and others who ought to know better, law and order will be set aside. Law and order and lynch rule cannot exist side by side. If we are to have lynch law, the right of private vengeance comes back out of the jungle and the cave, with no man's life safe.

Which do the American people want, lawless mobs murdering whom they will, or law and order, which, with its admitted faults, is still the foundation of civilization and the protector of the individual as well as the nation?

What'll It Take to Jar Them

When Will Employers Think Along Other Channels Than Dollars and Cents?

Only with apprehension can a thinking person try to conceive of what will be required to jar the mind of the American business man out of the ruts of his pre-depression habits of thought.

Four months of the educational processes of the NRA seem to have made very little impression upon the mental processes of scores upon scores of those who are coming to the hearings on the codes.

The shallowness, the littleness, the small-calibred selfishness of them is well expressed by the remark of one man who was rebuked by a presiding deputy administrator for his attitude at the hearing. "Oh, I'll go along with you," he said. "We have been going 'in the red' so long, that we will try anything once, just on the chance that we can make a dollar again once in a while."

The utter inability to think in terms any larger than the immediate profit and loss of his own little concern may be the result of years of training—more or less successful—along that line. The failure to think of wages, the whole of wages of American industry, and of adequate wages in relation to the movement of commodities after they are produced, is the thing that stands out as these men argue over a five-cent differential between North and South in wages, or over the length of the work-week.

Managing heads of great corporations boldly ask for a longer work-week than is now in force. They seem to have no conception of the reservoir of unemployed labor that has been backing up against the dam of a breaking public patience and personal endurance of privation for four years.

These men are going to be thinking in some other terms than they now use, before very long—whether or no. The question arises: What will be the nature of the shock which will crack the ignorant complacency of their intelligence? A few of them are beginning to think. But the masses of them are as innocent of what is going on as a baby is of bumble-bees.

SENATOR BORAH ON SILVER

That silver is coming more and more into its own is apparent as the debate on the monetary system, actual and proposed, wages hotter. The gold bloc is not going to have things all its way. Silver has always been money, and has been regarded as money for 3,000 years back, the same as gold. It is the medium of exchange of the teeming millions of the vast Orient. In all probability, it always will be.

Senator Borah, an international figure in the world of statecraft, makes a strong reply to James P. Warburg, taking issue with the latter on the principle of the revaluation of the gold dollar.

Senator Borah maintains that no sound monetary system can leave silver out of the reckoning.

After picturing the widespread loss and misery resulting from depriving great masses of people of their only medium of exchange, silver, the Senator casts doubt upon the possibility of effecting a conjunctive agreement with Great Britain on the gold revaluing principle. In his own words, he considers such an attempt as being "beyond the realm of practical consideration."

Machinery Should Be Servant Of Man

At Hearings on Code, Employer Said Trial Had Satisfied Him That Industry Can Exist With 36-Hour Week at Minimum of 40 Cents an Hour.

The President's Reemployment Agreement did vastly more than hasten absorption of several million of the unemployed. It also was a strong incentive to industry to maintain more efficient and less wasteful management in order to meet increased labor cost. Furthermore, it encouraged the great majority of intelligent industrial managements to enter into the work of formulating codes of fair competition with a genuine spirit of cooperation with the Government, based upon several weeks of observation of what the National Industrial Recovery Act actually has done for them.

There are disclosures at the code hearings in Washington indicative of the eagerness with which men and women went back to work after many despairing months. And of the sometimes amazing improvement in morale throughout big plants these long-idle workers brought with them. It appears there is a decided air of alacrity in big American industrial establishments these days. Considerable reduction in hours of work per week has resulted in considerable improvement in extent and quality of output, and especially of quality. As was to be expected, the new workers are very willing workers.

A typical case was at a hearing on a code submitted by the surgical dressing trade, which proposed a 40-hour work week with $14 weekly for employes in small and $15 in large cities. Asserting that "a 40-hour week would reduce employment in the trade by one-seventh," the representative of a famous firm said: "Our experience under the President's Reemployment Agreement indicates that the industry can support a maximum work week of 36 hours and a minimum wage of 40 cents per hour."

Explaining that his company has been operating under the cotton textile code, containing a limitation on machine hours, which the surgical dressing code omitted, he added:

"Machine limitation not only resists reduction of production costs but actually increases costs. Machinery should be the servant of man and make it possible for him to enjoy leisure, and it will if labor is assured its fair share of the product. This the National Recovery Act is doing, and it is the contribution of the act to the common welfare. Our industrial system can survive only if labor receives a larger share than heretofore of what it helps to produce."

MORE GIVING AWAY OF AMERICAN GOODS

It is reported that the Soviet government may "buy" cotton from this country "on credit," and later on turn it over to Italy in part-payment of debts owed by the Soviets to that country. This is on a par with the case of the precarious government of China, which recently "bought" 50 million bushels of wheat on credit and turned a large part of the wheat over to Japan for cash.

How such transactions are going to benefit the people of this country, who need food and clothing, is hard to see. At the same time, this wheat and cotton was largely financed by our government, which means that our taxpayers will have to foot the bill.

Taxing the American people in order to give away wheat and cotton is not going to help the unemployment situation. Neither is it taking care of our own needy citizens. Seeing that Europe already owes this country over $6,000,000,000, this is not likely to lighten the load. It is time for charity to begin at home—where there is so much need for it.

LABOR QUERIES

Questions and Answers on Labor; What It Has Done; Where It Stands on Problems of the Day; Its Aims and Program; Who's Who in the Ranks of the Organized Toilers, etc., etc.

Q.—How many charters has the American Federation of Labor granted in recent months?

A.—Since July 1, 824 charters have been issued to national and international unions, federal labor unions and local unions.

? ? ?

Q.—Who said: "Labor wants the earth and the fulness thereof"?

A.—Samuel Gompers. The excerpt is from the answer given by the great labor leader to the question, "What does labor want?"

? ? ?

Q.—Did Samuel Gompers oppose capital punishment?

A.—Yes. He once said: "I am opposed to capital punishment under all circumstances."

? ? ?

Q.—What famous American said: "I rejoice at every effort working men make to organize. I hail the labor movement. It is my only hope for democracy"?

A.—Phillips Brooks.

? ? ?

Q.—Did the American Federation of Labor advocate workmen's compensation laws when it was first organized?

A.—One of the first acts of the A. F. of L., in 1881, was to adopt a plank in its platform declaring "stricter laws should be enacted making employers liable for all accidents resulting from their negligence or incompetency to employes." Workmen's compensation laws were supported from the beginning.

? ? ?

Q.—Who was William Benbow;

A.—He was an English radical and agitator, born in 1784. He has been called the originator of the "general strike" idea in Great Britain and perhaps in Europe. He first expounded the idea in a pamphlet published in 1832.

? ? ?

Q.—Was the matter of closer relations between organized labor and the farmers considered in the early days of the American Federation of Labor?

A.—Yes. In 1890, the convention of that year sent expressions of fraternal sympathy and good will to the Farmers' Alliance. In 1893 the Executive Council was instructed to use every possible effort to perfect an alliance between the unions and farmers "to the end that the best interests of both will be served."

? ? ?

Q.—Does organized labor favor retirement systems for public school teachers?

A.—Yes. The 1933 American Federation of Labor convention recommended that efforts be continued for the establishment by law of sound retirement systems for teachers in the public schools.

? ? ?

Q.—Did the 1933 A. F. of L. convention act on old age pensions?

A.—The convention declared for compulsory old age pensions by Federal or State law.

? ? ?

Q.—Who said: "Abuses affect the morale of the worker adversely and in a manner which possesses portentious social consequences?"

A.—Dr. John McDowell.

An Amazing Exhibition

(Providence News-Tribune)

It should be, and we trust it will be, a long time before such a charge as Judge William W. Callahan delivered yesterday in the Scottsboro case is again delivered to an American jury. According to every report of it we have read, the judge not only "glowered at" counsel for the Negro defendant but went to extreme pains to tell the jury just how they could bring in a verdict of guilty in either of two degrees without saying anything of a verdict of not guilty until the defense counsel reminded him. He then acknowledged his omission, but what is to be said of a court guilty of such an omission in face of the principle that under our law a man is held to be innocent until he is proved guilty?

Another sidelight on the spirit in which this trial has been conducted is found in an exchange between the prosecutor and the counsel for the defense. "The language of the prosecutor is an appeal to passion and prejudice," said the defense counsel.

"It certainly is," the prosecutor retorted. "We all have a passion, and that is a passion for protecting the womanhood of the State of Alabama."

That was more slick than frank, for it ignored the prosecution's racial prejudice, but it pleased the audience in the court, including, probably, the jury. If the jury in this case should convict Heywood Patterson, the matter will again, no doubt, be brought to the United States Supreme Court. That tribunal threw out the verdict given at a former trial for which it could be said at least that it was presided over by a judge who performed his part according to the best traditions of the judiciary, seeking only to see that even-handed justice be dealt out.

Collecting Money from Job Seekers is So Much Money Wasted

Lobbyists continue to make life miserable for administration officials. They have become so bold that two exasperated cabinet officers this week struck out in protest.

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes said the "easiest money" in the capital is being collected by lawyers, agents and politicians, who "swarm hotel lobbies" and get in everybody's way.

He warned municipalities seeking construction funds that they are looked upon with suspicion when they "send politicians or others who claim to have influence to plead their cases."

Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins said that lobbyists are collecting fees from job seekers and warned that this is "money wasted."

AGREEMENTS WITH 21 SHOE FIRMS BROKEN BY LABOR BOARD DECISION

Boot and Shoe Workers' Union Seriously Affected by Abrogation of Its Union Stamp Agreements, Which For Years Had Made Brockton and Nearby Cities and Towns the Union Shoe Center of the World.

As the result of the recent decision rendered by the National Labor Board which left the matter of making agreements with manufacturers and their employes, as represented by two unions, namely, the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union, with which organization all the shops in Brockton were working under label contracts, and the Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied Craftsmen, a dual organization which during the past year has been making serious inroads in the membership of the B. & S. W. I. U., the latter organization has lost its greatest asset.

Among the firms affected by the decision are some which have carried on contractual agreements with the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union for many years, and whose products were favored by trade unionists throughout the country because of union conditions under which they were made.

Included among the firms and the brands under which they are known, affected by the settlement are:

The Braintree Shoe Company, which manufacture the Yorktown shoe;

Bridgewater Workers Cooperative Association, Over Globe shoe;

The Corcoran-Gleason Company;

Commonwealth Shoe and Leather Company, Bostonian, Foot Friends, Foot Savers;

Diamond Shoe Company, A. S. Beck shoes;

Doyle Shoe Company, Doyle shoe, Ralston;

Chas. A. Eaton Company, Eaton shoes, Crawford shoes;

Field & Flint Company, Foot-Joy, Burt & Packard;

A. Freedman & Sons;

Howard & Foster Company;

George E. Keith Company, Cabana, Walkover;

Old Colony Shoe Company, Foot Balance,

M. A. Packard Shoe Company, Arch Aid, Packard, Kent;

Regal Shoe Company, Regal shoes;

Richards & Brennan Company, The Brennan shoe;

Stacy Adams Company, Foot Flex;

Stone Tarlow Company, Stone Arch;

E. E. Taylor Company, Taylor made;

Thompson Bros. Shoe Company, The Thompson shoe;

The Union Shoe Company.

W. L. Douglas Co. Also in the List

Included in the list is the W. L. Douglas Company, whose employes, by a vote of 924 to 293, decided to be represented by the Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied Craftsmen, thereby taking from the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union that which had been considered its greatest asset for many years.

It was during the administration of the late John Tobin that union stamp agreements were made with Brockton manufacturers, and which made that city known as the greatest union shoe centre in the world.

His death, however, was not without having left much discontent which, during the past 10 or a dozen years grew to tremendous proportions, and which terminated last month by the capitulation of the Douglas company, which, according to the vote taken by their employes, forces them to abrogate their agreement with the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union and to deal with the Brotherhood of Shoe and Allied Craftsmen.

What the courts will decide in the case brought by the Boot & Shoe Workers against the abrogation of this and other contracts, remains to be seen. In the meantime, as announced by President J. J. Mara, new unions are being formed and label agreements for the production of union-stamped shoes are being made.

What these new brands will be called, and what city, town or district will in the future become renowned for its production of union stamped shoes, is a matter that it now being developed, and announcement from officials is expected at any moment.

B. & S. W. I. U. Invited to Join Amalgamation

There is much speculation, however, as to the probable future of the B. & S. W. I. U. Stripped of its greatest asset, which in the course of a few months was taken over by the Brotherhood, there is no telling as to what kind of progress it will be able to make in future negotiations.

The tendency throughout the country is for amalgamation. The Brotherhood, the Protective, and the Salem organization have taken steps toward forming one big union. It is said means are also taken to invite the B. & S. W. I. U. to join in this big deal.

Failure on the part of the latter organization to hold its affiliates offers the thought that its future is not any too bright. Hence, the possibility that some means may be taken for becoming part of the proposed amalgamation.

This would be in line with action taken by the clothing workers, and now being seriously considered by the Post Office employes, and other crafts, which, after many years of squabbling, have come to realize that divisions in the ranks of Labor are not conducive to the best interests of the general movement.

ROSTER OF ORGANIZATIONS

AFFILIATED WITH THE

MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

Organization	Secretary	Address
Lewiston Central Labor Union	J. A. Elie,	3 Sabattus St.
Woodland Central Labor Union	James A. Poole,	Woodland
Augusta Central Labor Union	H. W. Sanborn,	91 Western Ave.
Portland Central Labor Union	Frank C. McDonald	48 Gilman St.
Millinocket Central Labor Union	F. M. Perry,	153 Congress St.
Augusta Building Trades Council	Charles B. Finley	32 Child St.
Bar Harbor Building Trades Council	George M. Stanley,	Bar Harbor
Maine Conference of Bricklayers	T. J. Mahoney	28 North St. Portland
AUGUSTA		
Painters & Decorators' 541	Bert D. Pray,	7 Murray St.
Barbers' Union No. 493	Elery H. Folsom,	298 Water St.
Plumbers' Union No. 643	Charles F. Chase,	9 Gilman St.
Sta. Firemen's Union No. 323	Frank L. Douglas,	10 Spruce St.
Paper Makers' Union No. 84	Fred J. Verwillion,	19A No. Belfast Av.
Federal Labor Union No. 11,434	P. H. Fitzgerald,	25 W. Crescent St.
St. Railway Employes' Union, No. 724	Walter Esancy,	139 Grove St.
Carpenters & Joiners' Union No. 914	Carl T. Russell	Sewall St.
P. S. & P. M. W. Union No. 57	Arthur Bechard,	29 Franklin St.
Hod Carriers' Union No. 158	W. Beaulin,	4 Leland Block, Bridge St.
PORTLAND		
Printing Pressmen's Union No. 22	Thomas J. Magner,	168 York St.
Stage Employes' Union No. 114	Charles R. Haskell,	202 Congress St.
Moving Picture Operators' No. 458	J. A. Russell,	Madeline St.
Bricklayers & Masons' Union No. 2	Thomas J. Mahoney,	28 North St.
Stereotypers & Electrotypers' No. 111	F. W. York,	8 Revere St., Woodfords
Machinists' Union No. 1467	F. P. Coppenger,	16 Atlantic Ave.
Electrical Workers' Union No. 567	A. F. Eagles,	142 High St., rm. 306
Carpenters & Joiners Union No. 517	John S. Burchill,	453 Congress St.
Painters & Decorators' Union No. 237	William Crossley,	61 Carleton St.
Typographical Union No. 66	Carl C. Verrill,	813 Broadway
Plumbers & Steamfitters No. 217	John F. Kane,	26 Waterville St.
Hod Carriers Union No. 8	Michael Curran,	44 Greenleaf St.
Electrical Workers Union No. 333	Raymond Boudway,	14 Gilman St.
St. Railway Employes, Div. 714	E. W. Cobb,	178 Cottage, S. Portland
Cigar Makers Union No. 470	George Weever,	P. O. Box 954
WOODLAND		
Carpenters & Joiners' Union, No. 2400	H. Townsend,	Woodland
Paper Makers' Union No. 147	C. F. Murphy,	Woodland
Electrical Workers' Union No. 1057	F. H. Fountain,	P. O. Box 459
Sta. Firemen's Union No. 330	Chester Griffin,	Woodland
P. S. & P. M. W. Union No. 27	James A. Poole,	Woodland
Machinists Union No. 1490	William Porter,	Woodland
BAR HARBOR		
Plumbers and Steamfitters' No. 241	Elliott B. Dorr,	Bar Harbor
Painters & Decorators' Union, No. 142	Arno M. Jordan,	5 Ash St.
Electrical Workers' No. 222	H. E. Young,	25 Prospect St.
Carpenters & Joiners No. 459	M. R. Sawyer,	Bar Harbor
LEWISTON		
Carpenters & Joiners No. 407	Chas. L. Elwell,	437 Turner St., Auburn
St. Railway Employes, Div. 721	Thomas McDonough,	91 Elm St.
Stage Employes Union No. 624	C. F. Couillard,	157 Pine St.
Painters & Decorators Union No. 952	A. Lajoie,	251 Black St.
MILLINOCKET		
Carpenters & Jointers' No. 658	Geoffrey Baker,	82 Katahdin Ave.
Paper Makers' Union No. 27	J. P. McMullen,	36 Elm St., Millinocket
P. S. & P. M. W. Union No. 12	Walter M. Evans	P. O. Box 102
Sta. Firemen's Union No. 69	Percy Evers,	455 Penobscott Ave.
BANGOR		
Bricklayers & Masons' No. 7	W. C. Sturtevant,	13 Jackson St.
Molders' Union No. 101	Chester Shephard,	36 Emerson St.
Stage Employes' Union No. 198	Richard W. Gustin,	Box 107, Bangor
MADISON		
P. S. & P. M. W., No. 17	Elmer F. Nute,	17 Gray St.
Paper Makers' Union No. 73	William Savoy	
MECHANIC FALLS		
Paper Makers' Union No. 104	B. L. Bangs,	Mechanic Falls
EAST MILLINOCKET		
Paper Makers' Union No. 152	William MacLeod,	E. Millinocket
P. S. & P. M. W., No. 37	George Adams,	E. Millinocket
NORTH JAY		
Quarry Workers' Union No. 4	L. A. Tobin,	North Jay
WATERVILLE		
Carpenters & Joiners Union No. 348	Luke N. Morrell,	R. F. D. No. 1
VINALHAVEN		
Paving Cutters' Union No. 34	Elmer W. Simmers,	Vinalhaven
RUMFORD		
Journeymen Barbers Union No. 101	Jaffey J. Paradis,	90 Congress St.
ROCKLAND		
Plumbers' Union No. 570	F. J. Overlock,	48 Talbot Ave.
BATH		
Plumbers & Steamfitters' No. 717	John J. Mulcahy,	287 Center St.
BIDDEFORD		
Barbers' Union No. 708	Thomas A. Bouchard,	53 Center St.
BREWER		
Painters & Decorators No. 682	Richard Barker,	R. F. D. 6, Castor Av.
LISBON FALLS		
Paper Makers' Union No. 28	Joseph Byrus,	Lisbon Falls

Polite Horse-Trader With Harvard Accent

How Shrewd Mr. Roosevelt Dealt With Russian Diplomat, Who, Though Successful, Became a Sadder but Wiser Man.

(Industrial News Review)

A not wholly unjustified tradition has grown up both here and abroad, that European diplomats are prettty smooth stuff, and that American public men are so many babes in the woods when it comes to dealing with them. It's possible that that thought was in the mind of Russia's shrewd, experienced Litvinoff when he climbed the steps of the White House to confer with President Roosevelt over American-Russian recognition.

If so, Mr. Litvinoff soon became sadder and wiser. He found himself confronted by an excellent horse-trader—a suave, polite horse-trader with a Harvard accent to be sure, but a horse trader nevertheless. Where Mr. Litvinog had announced that so far as he was concerned, the negotiations could be concluded in half an hour, he found them extending on through the days.

Upshot was that the 16-year breach between two of the major powers was ended, with the United States on the long end of the deal so far as most of the demands were concerued. Points of the treaty include: Waiver by the Soviet of all claims growing out of the famous Siberian expedition of 19[illegible]: a guarantee against official Soviet propaganda in this country; another guarantee against the formation of any group designed to change the government of the United States; fair and prompt trials for Americans erring against Soviet law; guarantees of the free exercise of religious beliefs of Americans desident in Russia. Little mention is made of trade relations and details concerning them remain to be worked out.

First American Ambassador to present himself to steel-jawed, steel-eyed, steel-mannered No. 1 dictator of the world, Stalin, whose adopted name means Steel, will be William C. Bullitt, wealthy young socialite, who has written a sophisticated novel satirising Park Avenuites, a popular song or two, and has been the State Department's Russian expert. One of Mr. Roosevelt's bright young men, he was instrumental in bringing about recognition and is considered an excellent choice.

Smith Would Relish Satisfaction of Saying "I Told You So!"

In his editorials in The Outlook, former Governor Alfred E. Smith, who, with bankers and representatives of big business, is attempting to make things uncomfortable for President Roosevelt and the success of the NRA, takes on an attitude which clearly demonstrates "sore-headedness" and an apparent desire to be prepared to say "I told you so," should the President fail in bringing about business recovery by putting people back to work.

That this attitude on the part of Mr. Smith is soundly resented, isn't doubted. Admirers, which through his friendship for the people numbered millions, prior to his becoming associated with big business, have turned against him, and as a means for demonstrating their distrust in him will now redouble their efforts toward supporting the President in his tremendous task of making the NRA a success.

Smith and his cohorts must never be given the satisfaction of telling the people "I told you so!" Continued confidence must be reposed in President Roosevelt's entire program for business recovery. The progress made thus far, while seemingly unsatisfactory to big financiers, is carrying out its principal aim—that of providing people with employment and thereby increasing the purchasing ower of the masses.

Let's all buckle down to business and say to Al Smith and his financial backers: "You shan't succeed in your endeavor to break down the President's great program. We have implicit faith in his ability to get the country out of this terrible depression, and we are with him to the very limit."

Boston Bartenders Not Permitted to Work in Speakeasies

According to John J. Kearney, secretary of the Boston Bartenders' Union, about 2,000 jobs of that kind will be open for men who are properly trained and skilled in the mixing and dispensing of drinks. According to Mr. Kearney, the dry era changed the form of drinks and brought in many new combinations. The present generation demands mixed drinks but does not understand whether or not they are getting what they have ordered.

Already, he said, between 600 and 650 skilled bartenders have found positions with the better class of hotels and restaurants. According to union regulations, such members are not allowed to work in speakeasies, and neither is the serving of liquors permitted in the case of patrons showing evidences of intoxication.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

MACHINISTS' UNION OFFICIALS SAY THEY'RE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN KEEPING SHOP MEN FROM STRIKING AGAINST CODES

Representatives of Labor at Hearing Say Labor Wishes to Cooperate in Working Out Uniform Labor Provisions in Capital Goods Codes, But Protests Against Establishment of Master Code.

E. C. DAVISON

Secretary, International Association of Machinists

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9 (ILNS). —A general labor attack on codes for the capital machinery industries was launched at hearings on a code for the conveyor and material preparation industry. The codes are being fostered by the Machine and Allied Products Institute, known as the MAPI.

E. C. Davison, secretary of the International Association of Machinists, protested against the idea of a master code for all the capital goods industries, asserting that labor had been taken unawares and "had no conception of handling these industrial codes as a mass proposition."

He went on to enumerate the labor demands, which were substantially the same as in the diesel engine hearing. He asked a 35-hour week and minimum wage for common labor of 50 cents per hour. He declared the code, as worded, would permit work for an unlimited number of hours except that in one six-weeks' period the employes could not work more than 48 hours a week, and he assumed this was an error of misprint.

Fred Hewitt, labor adviser on the code, made a lengthy statement over the protest of Col. Horner, on behalf of labor's position in connection with MAPI codes. He said he wanted it understood that organized labor wished to cooperate in working out uniform labor provisions in capital goods codes —that MAPI was trying to obtain uniformity and labor agreed this was desirable.

Hewitt said there would be "all sorts of trouble" unless the capital machinery codes were written in language not susceptible to differing interpretations as, he contended, was the case with the code under-consideration. "We are having trouble holding our men in shops all over the country," he declared. "They want to strike in industries now operating under NRA codes, but we are asking them to remain at work until we can iron out these matters in Washington."

TWO SHIP-YARDS, DOING BUSINESS ON GOVERNMENT MONEY, REFUSE TO DEAL WITH THEIR TRADE UNION EMPLOYES

New York Regional Board Files Complaint With National Labor Board to Force Collective Bargaining—First Drastic Step Taken by Government Agency Under N. R. A. to Enforce Section 7A.

New York, Dec. 9 AFL).—The first drastic step by a government agency under the NRA to enforce the collective bargaining provision of the National Recovery Act was taken by the regional labor board against two shipbuilding corporations and three of their subsidiaries in the New York area.

4,000 on Strike

The board informed General Hugh S. Johnson, National Recovery Administrator, and Senator Robert F. Wagner, chairman of the National Labor Barod, that the United Dry Docks, Inc., and Todd Shipbuilding Corporation had refused persistently to negotiate with representatives of their 4,000 employes, on strike for the last seven weeks, and had declined also to accept the mediation of the labor board.

The subsidiaries in question are the Robbins Dry Dock and Repair Company, the Tietjen and Lang Dry Dock Company and Fletcher Dry Dock Company.

Regional Board Files Complaint

In letters to General Johnson and Senator Wagner the regional labor board asked that the corporations be summoned before the National Labor Board and that RFC loans said to have been granted to them be withdrawn unless they agreed to abide by the law and negotiate with their employes.

The letters, signed by George Alger, chairman, and Mrs. Elinore M. Herrick, vice chairman of the regional labor board, pointed out that the refusal of corporations to deal with the nine unions, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, threatened to result in a nation-wide tie-up of shipyards. Mr. Alger and Mrs. Herrick said they considered the case so important that they were prepared to carry it directly to President Roosevelt, if necessary.

Trade Unionist Dismissed

The local board found that the strike in the New York area was provoked by te dismissal of a welder, George Hunt, for unionization activity and declared that "such dismissal constitutes a discrimination in direct violation of the spirit of the NRA, and particularly of Article II of the shipbuilders' and ship repairers' code" providing for collective bargaining with the employes through representatives of their own choosing.

The board found also that the refusal of the corporations to negotiate with the unions was a violation of Section 7 (a) of the National Recovery Act.

The Unions Involved

The unions involved are the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Union of Shipjoiners, and Carpenters, the Ship Caulkers' Union, Local 1292; International Brotherhood of Machinists, International Association of Machinists, Dock Hands' Union and Metal Trades and Pattern Makers' Union.

LABOR DEPARTMENT SETS UP NATION-WIDE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Approximately 2,400 Offices Now in Operation, Secretary Perkins Announces—Very Few Children of 14 and 15 Still Working in Industry and Trade, She Reports—Lauds Success of NRA.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9 (ILNS). —A nation-wide employment service is now a reality, Secretary of Labor Perkins said in announcing that the Department, through the United States Employment Service, has set up approximately 2,400 offices covering every State to place workers on jobs in private industry and on public works and civil works projects.

She also announced that a survey made by the Children's Bureau indicated that as a result of the NRA codes very few children of 14 and 15 years are still holding full-time jobs in industry and trade. This conclusion was reached from 51 replies from offices which issue working permits to children in 24 states.

"The network of re-employment offices is now functioning and meeting demands for registration, according to messages from officers in all the States and the District of Columbia," Miss Perkins said. "They have reported to W. Frank Persons, director of the Employment Service, that they will have qualified applicants listed and ready to fill jobs on CWA and PWA projects as the demands are made.

"If there is a need to establish more offices the Department of Labor will see to it that they are set up. There is a big job ahead of the Employment Service and I believe the task will be performed in such an efficient way as to prove that a Federal-State service can supply qualified workers for all sorts of jobs in many different localities."

"In speaking of child labor conditions under the NRA codes, Miss Perkins said that two-thirds of the replies to the questionnaire sent out by the Children's Bureau, indicated that issuing officers have been revoking, or cancelling, permits for industrial or mercantile jobs previously issued to children under 16. In addition, many permits have been returned as employers have dropped these youngsters from their payrolls, she said.

"Those children under 16 who on October 1 still remained out of school for the most part held permits for domestic service, or were exempted from school attendance because of need of their services at home," she said. "In a few places where the policy of revoking permits issued to children under 16 had not yet been adopted, there were still considerable numbers of permits for industrial and mercantile jobs outstanding. It is also probable that there are some children illegally employed without permits.

"Nevertheless, with due allowance for this fact and for the fact that adjustments to new policies require time —especially over so large an area as the United States, the findings of the survey show that very encouraging progress has been made throughout the country in carrying out the NRA policy of eliminating child labor."

MORE EDUCATION NEEDED

Recent outbreaks of ignorant and savage mob passion emphasize anew the crying need for more education. Education does not eliminate the tiger in man but it helps him to keep it in leash. Lynch law is more prevalent in communities with poor school facilities than in more enlightened communities which maintain good school systems.

Here's A Big Employer Who Refused Raise in Annual Salary

Strange Incident Occurred at Meeting When Head of the Axton-Fisher Co., Which Did $40,000,000 Business Last Year, Refused Increase When Urged by Stockholders—Executive Says Trouble With This Country is That Officials Take Too Much for Themselves—Urges Everyone to Back Roosevelt Squarely—Referred to as "One of Best Union Employers in the Country," by Kentucky State Federation Official.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 9.—Too much "take out" in business with not enough going to producers and consumers, was described as one of the greatest troubles of the country today by Wood F. Axton, president of the Axton-Fisher Tobacco Company, who aroused widespread comment by refusing a salary increase proposed by leading stockholders.

Ray Ellis, of New Albany, Ind., one of the stockholders, said that the company did a $40,000,000 business last year, and that President Axton was paid only $10,000 which, Ellis said, was not enough. Colonel Axton rejected the suggestion by saying, "If there is any pay raising in this factory, it will start at the bottom and not at the top."

At the dedication of a new addition to the 22-acre Axton-Fisher plant, which has added 600 workers this year by operating on three shafts, Colonel Axton announced that the company would entirely absorb the new Federal tobacco processing tax to aid tobacco growers, without increasing prices to consumers.

"One of the greatest troubles with the country is that business executives are taking too much for themselves," said Axton, "and if we want to overcome the depression, the people must have enough to buy back the products of their labor. The processing tax is a just tax and one that the farmer is entitled to, and everyone ought to be glad to pay it. We are going to absorb this tax by more efficient methods and through every economy we can find.

"You know," Mr. Axton continued, "there always has to be a General. There is one great general, our President, and he has asked us to restore prosperity. That's not to be done unless every man is willing to make a sacrifice. I once heard Theodore Roosevelt say that the prosperity of this country had to be passed around. Now we have Franklin Roosevelt trying to pass it around.

"I want to tell you one thing," Mr. Axton declared, "in 1931 the tobacco industry of this country earned a net profit of $148,000,000, and it paid the farmers only $69,000,000 for its raw material. There is no wonder with that kind of licks that we've got depression in this country."

Mr. Axton said one cigarette machine in the factory could make as many cigarettes in a minute as a man could make in a day. He declared the same is true of other machines and expressed the opinion that 1,000,000 men could make as much today as 10,000,000 men could a generation ago. The thing to do, he said, is to increase the buying power of the 1,000,000 by ten.

Back the President Squarely

"If you give the people of this country enough to buy back the products of their labor, we'll never have a depression in this country."

He urged everyone to back the President squarely, predicting te success of the President's recovery plans.

Discussing the processing tax, Mr. Axton said: "If we can't pay it back through our business, then we aren't competent to run our business and ought to get out. We're going to absorb that tax and all the other taxes and are not going to pass it on to the consumer. We are going to do it and like it."

Peter Campbell, secretary of the Kentucky State Federation of Labor, declared that Colonel Axton is "one of the most progressive employers in the nation and a 100 per cent Blue Eagle operator. I do not believe that there is a firm fairer to union labor," he added.

Prentiss Terry, of the Department of Commerce, asserted that: "If all the employers of this country had done what Mr. Axton has we wouldn't have the code troubles we do. The only thing that has gone down in this plant is the hours of labor."

R. E. S. Woolsey, representing Louisville bankers, said that if the business leaders of the country were all of the same type as Colonel Axton, "we would not have had this terrible situation."

"STRETCH-OUT" SYSTEM MEANS THAT HUMAN FLESH AND BLOOD IS LIKENED AS PART OF MACHINE

Situation in Fall River, Where Employers Threatened to Close Mills Unless Weavers Agreed to Operate 60 Looms, is Attracting Public Notice and Must be Regulated Either by NRA or Special State Legislation—A Case for Medical Authorities.

The strike of the weavers employed in the textile plant of the American Printing Company, against an attempt to compel them to care for 60 looms, is bound to attract public attention to this latest instance of the pernicious "stretch-out" system. That system simply means that human flesh and blood are considered as nothing more or less than a part of the industrial machine to turn out cloth. Looms run by steam or electric power, and being made of steel, wood and iron are, of course, insensible to such things as human physical and mental exhaustion. It is not so with the human automatons who are compelled to keep time and pace with these tireless mechanical taskmasters.

It is time for a public hearing and general understanding upon the whole question: "What may reasonably be required of a worker handling looms or other automatic machinery?" The issues are deep and grave from the point of community welfare and even governmental stability. Adding excessive work, as in the above instance, is merely another way of displacing labor on one hand, and proportionately reducing wages on the other. It nullifies and sets at naught the vital principles of the NRA and the textile code.

What About Wages?

If the worker were to be paid on the basis of his or her production on 60 looms, computed in cloth yardage, what should such wages amount to? Manifestly, that basis was not considered by the manufacturers in the above case. The workers are not being paid on an equitable basis of production, neither are they restricted to a maximum human capacity. When a worker, after being robbed of his just compensation on this high-speed and stretch-out system, breaks down and falls out, another fresh victim of economic necessity is ready to take his or her place, and the juggernaut of industrial human sacrifice crunches its way over new victims.

But what of the displaced worker? Prematurely worn out in physical health and with nerves torn and shredded with the exactions of toil, on one side, and the fear of having to abandon even that life-destroying burden, on the other, the victim of this inhuman system winds up on the industrial scrap heap. Public aid or private charity then must be invoked and the tax burden is transferred to the community at large.

Deep Social Consequence

Then there is the physological aspect of the case with its deep social consequences. What kind of a posterity is to be expected of prematurely worn out and mentally frayed and discouraged parents? "A sound mind in a healthy body" is the incontrovertible starting off point of civilization. No enduring state can be built around anything less. Industrial practices that impair and finally ruin normal human development are subversive of all safeguards of the community and State, and should not be tolerated.

It is time for the Government to look into the "stretch-out" system from the point of national policy. If there is anything at all in the characterization of "rugged individualism," then the "stretch-out" system gives every evidence, open and notorious, that the two principles are exactly opposed to each other. This, also, is a situation which has enlisted the deepest attention of the American Federation of Labor and of every State Branch throughout the country. Either organized labor or the "stretch-out" system must go. There can be no compromise where such a vital principle of human justice is concerned.

More Dividends

The "stretch-out" system is generally born of an attempt of exploiters to earn dividends upon an illogically expanded capitalization. In attempting to earn dividends upon watered stock, recourse is had to accelerated machinery, increased number of looms or other machines, and the casting out of the middle-aged worker. All this is for the purpose of endeavoring to make arbitrarily excessive human toll cover up the fact that the normal productive capacity of a given plant is altogether out of proportion with the capitalization. Such watered capitalization is then loaded on the public, at falsely inflated prices, while the workers are penalized with excessive overtoll. Moreover, the purchasing public also has to bear a share of the added cost, made necessary by such excess capitalization.

A Case for State Medical Authorities

We have laws for providing sanitary conditions and safeguards against accidents in industry. But the "stretch-out" system has not been properly recognized, nor properly opposed. This is a case where the State medical authorities should be called in to determine to what degree the mental and physical health of the workers is affected by this over-burden on human capacity. If the State can demand safeguards and general healthful conditions in workshops and factories, it can legally, certainly, draw the line on the amount of toil beyond which the health of body and mind of the workers should not be permitted to go.

This should be put into effect at once. Our citizens were not created merely to grind out dividends—and prematurely grind out their lives while so doing. The Constitution guarantees them "life, liberty, health and freedom for the pursuit of happiness." The "stretch-out" system is a barbarous denial of these elementary human rights. The workers of Fall River are like those Continentals who stood at the Bridge of Concord. Their voices of protest, like the musketry of Concord, will be heard around the world. There can be no New Deal while the "stretch-out" system prevails. It must—and shall—go!

WATERVILLE

Labor Favors Staples as Member of Public Utilities Commission

Refusal on the part of the Republican Executive Council to confirm Gov. Brann's appointment of Representative Kingsbury B. Piper as a member of the Public Utilities Commission, gives reason to hope that the Governor may name David Staples of Waterville, who, it is said, was given deep consideration by the governor but who, for some reason decided to name Mr. Piper.

Mr. Staples, who is a former member of the Legislature and connected with railroads for many years, is regarded as especially well fitted for the office, and in his candidacy had the endorsement of Labor organizations from all parts of the State.

He is a member of the Brotherhood of Railroad Engineers, and is highly respected by members of that organization throughout the State.

What objection the Executive Council had against confirming the nomination of Representative Piper, has not been made public, except a statement made by one of the members, this to the effect that the Council would confirm any other man if, in the belief of the Council, he is capable of holding down this important position.

Representative Piper, 66 years old and a Democrat, represents Bangor in the Legislature. He was educated in the public schools and his principal occupation has been Federal income tax adviser and accountant. He has been internal revenue agent, superintendent of schools and State pension agent.

Wyandotte Local 1802 Is Host to Visiting Textile Unions

Local 1802, Wyandotte Workers of Waterville, gave a steamed clam dinner to their members and invited guests from various locals recently.

The regular business meeting was called to order by President Arthur St. Peter and the yearly installation of officers was conducted by R. E. Daggett, president of the Maine State Federation of Labor. President St. Peter called upon Ernest Geer, president of Augusta Local 1778; President Frank Paquette of Fairfield Local 1916; President Bert Buzzell of Skowhegan Local 2021, and Financial Secretary Walter Bean of Madison Local 2020, all of whom responded with short but encouraging talks.

Many of the other officers of the above-mentioned locals attended and at the close of the business meeting were all invited to the dining room for the steamed clam dinner.

A chicken raffle was held and members of Skowhegan Local 2021 were lucky, one man walking out with three chickens.

Much praise and credit is due Local 1802 for the good dinner and hearty good-fellowship displayed at this meeting. Every brother and sister of visiting locals left for their respective homes with new courage, better determination and new ideas of what their own local unions should do, and a feeling that 'in unionism there is strength.'

Let's Pull Together

By RIP VAN WINKLE, Broadcasting from Station BVD

If you are not hard of hearing you will not believe this, but it is very much so. If I were an orator I would talk you blind, but I will make it as brief as I can, and you all know that I anticipate no wings, either of white feathers, nor black leather.

Neither have I any convictions that the thing that I identify as my personality will continue as I am now conscious of it. I am very confident of some sort of continuation but not of continuity of awareness of it.

Now, in regard to the NRA program, there are quite a few who find fault, and who are probably justified; but at least it is an attempt to help the country upward, and I believe those who are so-called chiselers should come forward with a better solution if they can so design one for their own good and also for the betterment of the whole country.

Although it may prove useless, they all have the right to suggest ideas which would prove not only their superior intelligence but their understanding of the seriousness of the situation.

As a result, I think a remedy might be affected that would cause industry and labor to go hand in hand—meaning that industry and labor will have to act like mother and child. Industry to protect labor and labor to protect industry from unfair practice and cut-throat competition, sweat-shop goods, etc. You know that labor is the buying power today, and always was, and the public did not know it until now.

If you do not want Labor in this country to become as it is in some countries in Europe, then do all you can to follow the NRA codes and see that others do likewise. It is up to the public in general to police their respective work shops and see to this to make this country safe for labor and second to none for the rights of labor. Labor alone can do a lot to better conditions and should do this for the betterment of labor and industry. The way to support a country or a leader in a heroic fight against the most dreadful enemy that ever beset a nation, is to follow a proven leader who has shown by every act his primary care for you. To back him to the limit and let nothing happen to give aid and comfort to his enemies. Let's pull together or it is as certain as the run rises that we are all going to be pulled down separately.

We must have the formation of a new social mind. My observation discloses a pretty general disposition on the part of the individual to demand social protection for his weakness, while clinging to individualism in the domain of his strength. I have heard remarks that such a disposition has been noticed among some of our workers. The creation of the new social mind is perhaps the most important duty which we shall ever assume. It is a case of intelligent thinking, not for blind obedience.

A new social mind cannot be legislated into existence or established by dictatorial fist, nor created by any other device of argument. It must assume from gradual reflection the progress of intelligent public thinking and the qualities of the leader who dominates public thought.

The essential element for the creation of enlightened public opinion is not dictatorship but leadership. The importance of organization and effective leadership is that it musters all of our knowledge, utilizes all of our intelligence and capitalizes all of our confidence in each other.

Toward the creation of a new social mind we can only move as fast as the people can think, and you know there is great excitement today and everyone is urged to do something quickly. But it is more important to do something intelligently, even if it takes more time. These rules of the game have certain effects if they are properly devised. They arouse in the mind of the employer that sense of responsibility in the pursuit of private gain which is coming to be known as business ethics. There is no single course from which these so-called business ethics are derived. The most general source referred to is public opinion. But public opinion is ineffective unless backed by some kind of organization with power to inflict some kind of penalty that will be felt by him who otherwise is unmoved by this sense of business ethics.

I take it that the present amazing increase in numbers of trade unions, whether of business men or of farmers or of laboring men, is a promising source of these sanctions of public opinion.

The Spirit of the Day

By JOHN B. THIBEDEAU

As we look back over the year now drawing to a close, there seems to be the more reason to express, as we did last Thanksgiving Day, our thanks to the Maine State Federation of Labor.

Because, in 1933, Labor has been awarded the NRA Codes. This not only makes the greatest margin of public preference, but puts Labor in a position for leadership and in keeping with the spirit of the day, Labor joins together again in voicing its appreciation to the Maine State Federation. It is deeply grateful for the confidence and good will which have made possible our present position in industry, and we gladly accept the responsibilities imposed by such leadership of these responsibilities.

We consider none more important than that of giving the Maine State Federation better support and we are proud to say that such a union will be presented to American Labor within a few weeks. These unions will embody every advantage that can be secured from the large scale operations your memberships have made possible. It will return these advantages in the form of better labor laws, and a greater value to you who have given us your support.

And that, after all, is the best way I know of saying

Thank You.

Quarry Business is Good When N. Y. Taxpayers Settle

From J. William Gillis, secretary of Quarry Workers' International Union, Branch 211, Willard's Point, comes the news that some of the paving quarries which have been closed all summer were recently opened and that a goodly number of workers who have been idle since last spring have returned to work.

The products from Willard's Point quarries, Secretary Gillis says, are shipped to New York City, and interruption in business only occurs when the citizens of the metropolis fail to pay their taxes, then "we are automatically hung up," he said.

Secretary Gillis reports the following officers were elected for the ensuing year at the meeting of Branch 211 held on Thursday, December 4th, in Odd Fellows Hall, Tenants Harbor, St. George.

President, Eugene Smalley, Long Cove; vice president, E. Q. Cook; secretary, J. William Gillis; treasurer, Edwin S. Wheeler, all of Tenants' Harbor.

Trustees, Walter Ulmer, Warren Philbrook and William Barter.

FAIRFIELD

Kennebec Local 1916 Hears Stirring Talk by Railroad Organizer

Local 1916, Kennebec Workers, held a snappy meeting on Sunday afternoon, December 3rd, in Modern Woodman's Hall, Fairfield.

The meeting was called to order by President Paquette and the first speaker was R. E. Daggett, president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, who was followed by C. R. Burgess, secretary of the Federation.

Mr. Smith, organizer for the Railroad Brotherhoods, who is making his headquarters for the present in Waterville, delivered a stirring address. He gave an outline of activities now being conducted by the Brotherhoods, referring in particular to the coming conference in Chicago, at which it is hoped a better understanding is to be accomplished regarding future relations between the management and the unions.

Local 1916 initiated a goodly number of candidates at this meeting, and satisfaction was plainly written on the many faces throughout the ceremony.

Noted Yale Prof. Praises Roosevelt Monetary Plan

Prof. Irving Fisher, of Yale University, in a speech delivered in that city, upheld the Federal gold buying program of President Roosevelt. In substance, he declared, "through gold alone we can produce any price level that we desire."

Asserting that there was power to do this, he maintained that what we need is to use it wisely. He decried German inflation and contended that real stabilization was aimed at. He struck a bold note when he said that he did not favor a return to the gold dollar of the former weight and fineness but favored a de-valuation of about 20 per cent.

DEXFIELD

Intensive Drive Planned to Organize Dexfield Match Wkrs.

An intensive organizing campaign was planned at last Friday night's meeting of Federal Local Union 18,823 in Dexfield, and hopes were expressed by President Patterson and Secretary Ross that this will result in bringing every match worker employed in Dexfield into the union.

President Daggett and Secretary Burgess of the Maine State Federation of Labor, who were present and addressed the meeting, expressed much pleasure over the progress made by the new local union, and in the course of their remarks praised the leadership of President Patterson who, with Secretary Ross, have rendered yeoman service in building up a splendid organization.

The interest manifested by State Branch officials in the formation of Local 18,823, and their desire to have it become a 100 per cent organization, was referred to at the meeting by one member, who said Messrs. Daggett and Burgess had traveled 160 miles to be present at this metting, and felt their excellent services should be the means of inspiring every member to do his utmost toward making the organization a success.

"Let's go into this drive with undaunted enthusiasm," he said, "thereby not only demonstrating our devotion to the cause of Labor, but as a mark of appreciation for the splendid interest shown by those whose best thought, time and energy are employed so that we may reap a more equitable portion from our labor."

The meeting was largely attended and judging from the enthusiasm manifested, writes Mrs. R. E. Daggett, who accompanied State Branch officials, "Federal Union 18,823 is bound to 'go over big'."

BAR HARBOR

C. W. A. Projects Boon to Building Trades Workers

Good news from Bar Harbor!

CWA projects, it is said, are providing employment for hundreds of building workers and officials of local unions have been recipients of responsible positions, these including Alonzo F. Young, a vice president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, in charge of the 4th district, and Otis Collins, are acting as timekeepers on the CWA project at Acadia National Park; Alton Marshall, as a member of the clerical force, and Daniel Breen as foreman.

The work thus far allotted to Bar Harbor is fast absorbing the unemployed, and much satisfaction is expressed by a goodly number of building trades workers, some of whom have had little work during the past two years.

The Bar Harbor Compliance Board, of which Alonzo F. Young is a member, is functioning—at least as far as holding meetings is concerned—but as yet the board has not received a single complaint.

Prior to the allotment of CWA money here, many of our unemployed members turned to hunting as a pastime, and good stories are told by the "good shots" whose efforts brought results. Principal among these is Curtis Steward, a member of Painters' Local 142, who brought in a fine doe.

Generally speaking, the hunting season was excellent, and much enthusiasm was manifested by groups of members at meetings of local unions held during the past two weeks, when relating their experiences while tramping through the wilds of Maine.

Barbers Sue Barbers For Code Violations

A legal action for violation of the N. R. A. code applying to barbers was filed in Superior Court at East Cambridge this week. Three plaintiffs allege that certain other barbers, after having agreed to abide by specified conditions of the code, violated the schedules and broke their agreement.

For this reason, the court is asked to restrain the defendants from continuing such violations. These infractions consist of over-long hours and price cutting. The case, which comprises a bill in equity, is due for a hearing in te near future.

DEPUTY ADMINISTRATORS IN CHARGE OF BUILDING CODE TAKEN TO TASK BY ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL

In "Unsent Letter to The President," Brotherhood Officials Refer to NRA Deputies as Harboring Petty Connivers, Partisan and Mean Defeatists, Lobbyists and Chiselers Who Use Influence to Cheat Workers.

The Electrical Worker, official organ of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, in its current issue is critical of the manner in which the N. R. A. is being administered, and in an editorial headed "An Unsent Letter to the President of the United States," says as follows:

"The administration of the N. R. A. has been partisan, unpatriotic, factional, unfair, treacherous to you and your ideals, Mr President. In a time like this when national economic management and planning depends upon large-minded, disinterested administrators, certain important offices on the fourth floor of the Commerce Building have been filled with petty connivers, partisan and mean defeatists, lobbyists and chiselers incapable of grasping the function of a disinterested, impartial Government agency."

The editorial says deputy administrators have "outraged the simplest and commonest rules of inquiry," "ignored evidence," "worked in favor of employers," and made it "difficult if not impossible for labor representatives to function and also have failed to call in advisors on codes where advisors are expresslly charged with having the responsibility of passing on them." It is claimed by the editorial that there are deputy administrators working against the underlying contention of the law "that prosperity can only return upon the wings of increased purchasing power."

"Mr. President," the editerial concludes, "the underlying idea of the N. R. A. is sound. It is creative. It contains the seed of a new order which will bring stability and prosperity to America. It should not be allowed to fail. It can be made to work.

"Mr. President, the money changers are not only in the temple, they are in your own house."

The article was prompted because of the activities of the Construction League, which is made up of 15 employers' organizations, and the extreme partiality shown representatives of the League by at least two of the N. R. A. deputies, who, as it is claimed in the "unsent letter," have shown little or no regard for the rights of working people during discussion of the construction industry code.

In giving reasons for this lack of consideration, the magazine, in describing the personnel of the deputy administrators, makes mention of Malcolm Muir, who is divisional administrator, and the position he occupies in private life, when not engaged in presiding over codes of fair competition.

Mr. Muir's private connections are: President, McGraw-Hill Publishing Company; director, Business Publishers International; director, McGraw-Hill Catalog and Directory; director, McGraw-Hill Book Company; director, National Publishers Association; director, 342 West 42nd Street Corporation; director, Newton Falls Paper Co.

Malcolm Pirnie, another deputy administrator, according to "Construction," officials bulletin of the Construction League, is a former member of the executive committee of the League's National Committee for National Recovery.

Johnson Takes Hold To End Two-Months Row Over Code

Unable after two months in its effort to work out an acceptable code for the construction industries, Gen. Johnson decided to employ the method used in ending the long coal negotiations and called for a committee of labor and employers to thresh out their differences.

This course was chosen after a day-long hearing on Monday, in which employer and labor spokesmen presented opposing demands, accompanied by suggestions of non-cooperation if either side failed to get its own way.

Gen. Johnson put the committee to work immediately and arranged to reconvene the public hearing next Monday to hear a report. Two of the highest ranking men in the N. R. A. organization, Robert W. Lea, assistant administrator, and Donald R. Richberg, general counsel, were assigned to sit in on the conference.

Single Code is Opposed

The industrial side, with an array of important witnesses, insisted upon one master code administered by the Construction League of the United States, with supplementary codes for many divisions of the industry.

Labor, led by President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, and M. J. McDonough, president of the Building Trades Department, A. F. of L., demanded that the master code be scrapped and entirely new compacts be written.

Two labor men and six representing various industrial groupings were asked by Johnson to serve on the committee.

Hours of work constituted possibly the most difficult point to settle. Builders and engineers insisted that a 40-hour week, with leeway for 48 hours to make up for loss of time in bad weather, was necessary if construction workers were to make enough to support their families the rest of the year.

Labor Demands 30 Hours

Thirty hours were demanded by labor leaders because, they said, not more than 20 per cent of construction workers in the country are employed and N. R. A.'s reemployment purpose cannot be served on a shorter schedule.

A general labor demand was for wages equaling those set by the Public Works Administration on Government projects. In opposition to this, employers' representatives said this would lift building costs 70 per cent and paralyze the already depressed trade.

The "Blue Eagle" and Its Relationship to the Recovery Act

The purpose of the President's Reemployment Agreement, of which the "Blue Eagle" is a part, was to raise wages and reduce the hours of labor. The "Blue Eagle" was adopted for the purpose of designating stores, shops and business houses that had accepted the President's Reemployment Agreement and in recognition for this patriotic endeavor, these firms should be favored with the patronage of all people who are in sympathy with the National Recovery Act, and who want to see it succeed.

In statements issued by General Johnson, he as much as said that the boycott as administered by trade unions should be applied to such stores, shops and business houses whose proprietors failed to accept the President's Reemployment Agreement.

Proper observance of the "Blue Eagle" is one of the principal elements for the success of the N. R. A. This applies today, just as much as it did on the first day it went into effect.

10,000 DELEGATES FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY EXPECTED TO ATTEND NEXT CONTINENTAL CONGRESS IN CHICAGO

"If the Federal government fails in its recovery drive or is driven on an extremely reactionary course which will mean worse than failure from the workers' viewpoint, some such organization as the Continental Congress may have to take over power as an economic parliament of the workers and farmers," declared Powers Hapgood at a mass meeting held in the Electrical Workers Hall, Union Park Temple, Chicago.

The mass meeting was in honor of the first meeting of the National Committee of the Continental Congress since the organization of the National Farmers and Workers assembly at Washington last May. Powers Hapgood, national executive committeeman and labor secretary of the Socialist Party, and a national committeeman of the Congress, pointed out that extreme confusion might force a development in America where social control would tend more into the hands of economic organizations similar to the Soviets rather than into traditional political institutions.

Other speakers at the mass meeting were Logan Turner of the Railroad Brotherhoods Association of Kansas City, Robert Miller of the Farmers' Union and Farm Holiday Association, Norman Thomas of the Socialist Party, and Karl Borders of the Chicago Workers Committee on Unemployment, an organization of unemployed. All the speakers were members of the executive committee of the Continental Congress, having been chosen on the functional basis of types of producing class organizations on which the Congress is organized.

In reference to the above, a call for a monster mass gathering of workers and farmers' deputies at Chicago, in 1934, has been decided upon. Meantime, state organizations have been formed in half the States in the Union. This is for the purpose of building State Congresses and local committees of action. National headquarters are at the Moxley building, Chicago. Ten thousands delegates from all parts of the country are expected to attend the Congress.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE LABOR NEWS!
HAS IT EXPIRED?
LOOK UP YOUR LAST RECEIPT; THAT TELLS THE STORY!

"WERE IT NOT FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT, NRA WOULD NOT CONTAIN FAVORABLE CLAUSES"

So Said Congressman James M. Mead of New York, in Address to Delegates at Convention of National Federation of Post Office Clerks — Says America is First Country in the World to Adopt This Magna Charta.

"I just want to leave this impression and this thought with you. This is the day for labor organizations to marshal their forces in solid phalanx, to forget discord and strife and to make every effort to take advantage of the magnificent [illegible] in store for them," said Congressman Mead.

"Remember this: Were it not for the organized labor movement we would not be on the verge of emerging from this depression, maintaining the wage standards and the other standards of living which the wage earners of America enjoy tonight.

"Only because of the organized wage earners, and to them is to be given the full credit, are we now the recipients of American wage standards, because when the depression came upon us the open-shoppers, the unaffiliated organizations and the unorganized workers became the victims of the selfishness of the employer class. Their wage standards were reduced, their working conditions were bartered away, and they were made to compete with the twelve or thirteen millions unemployed in the country.

"But coming through the struggle with their standards up high, maintaining the schedules and the pay, the American Federation of Labor and all the affiliated groups, including your Federation, contributed mightily to the position we find ourselves in tonight.

"Were it not for the strength of the American labor movement, the favorable suggestions contained in the National Recovery Act would not be there.

"But now, written in with the imprint of the Government, every man and woman that works for a living has the right under the law to become associated with an organization of their own choice, without interference on the part of the employers.

"America is the first and foremost country in the world to adopt this magna charta for the organized worker, recognizing the fact that we are not going to maintain buying power, we are not going to make for permanent prosperity until the men and women who work for a living are permitted and encouraged to affiliate with the labor movement.

"And so to you, because of the fact that you belong to an organization that is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, you must carry the message to postal employes who are not yet as fortunate as you are, and convince them that if you are to reap the entire harvest in store for us, we must all be in one great organization, and that organization is your organization, because your organization is associated with the other organizations in the Postal Service who come under the banner of the American labor movement.

"The day of company unions is over and the man though he may be a member of an organization of that kind, may be in some small degree contributing to his own welfare, but in no degree whatever is he contributing to the mass welfare of the workers of America. So I urge you, my friends, not only to help make a success of the National Recovery Act but spread the gospel of labor, and in doing so spread the gospel of Federated labor organizations."

RAILROAD LABOR TO OUTLINE PROGRAM EMBODYING IDEAS AS TO WHAT IS NEEDED TO REHABILITATE INDUSTRY

Program to Be Presented to Congress Next Month Will Be Launched at Dinner to be Held in Chicago on December 20th—Railroad Chiefs Submitted Ideas to Federal Coordinator Eastman.

By DONALD RAMSEY in LABOR, Official Newspaper of the Railway Brotherhoods.

When Congress reconvenes next month, the 21 Standard Railroad Labor Organizations will submit to the lawmakers a comprehensive program embodying railroad labor's ideas of what is needed to rehabilitate the transportation industry.

This decision was made at a two-day session of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, held in Washington last week. President A. F. Whitney of the Trainmen acted as chairman and President J. G. Luhrsen of the Train Dispatchers as secretary. All organizations were represented either by chief executives or other Grand Lodge officers.

Presented to Eastman

On Saturday a committee of the association went over the program with Federal Coordinator Joseph B. Eastman, who is formulating changes in existing transportation laws for the consideration of Congress.

In the group which met with Mr. Eastman were President George M. Harrison of the Railway Clerks, President A. F. Whitney of the Trainmen, President D. B. Robertson of the Firemen and Enginemen, President T. C. Cashen of the Switchmen, President B. M. Jewell of the Railway Employes' Department of the A. F. of L., President E. J. Manion of the Telegraphers, and Captain J. J. Delaney of the Masters, Mates and Pilots.

Frank L. Mulholland of Toledo, O., who is acting as counsel for the railroad labor organizations, also attended.

Miss Perkins to Speak

The rail labor chiefs are confident their proposals will meet with general favor. They will submit their suggestions to the public at a dinner to be given at the Palmer House in Chicago on the evening of December 20. Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, has accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker. With her on the program will be President Whitney of the Trainmen and President Harrison of the Clerks.

The dinner will be sponsored by the Railway Labor Executives Association. It promises to be the most impressive affair of the kind ever held in this country. Arrangements are being made to take care of from 1,500 to 2,000 guests, and a special invitation will be extended to representatives of the press.

Square Deal for All

President Whitney, speaking as the chairman of the Railway Labor Executives' Association, announced that on December 21, the day following the dinner, the chief executives will meet to formulate plans for the proper presentation of their program to Congress.

"We are convinced," said Mr. Whitney, "that any legislative program dealing with the railroads of this country must definitely recognize the rights and interests of three groups—the workers, the security owners and the public. All must be assured of a square deal. Any program which does not frankly and adequately safeguard the interests of all three groups must fail.

"Railroad workers have sacrificed until it hurts. Eight hundred thousand of our brothers are walking the streets, ten of thousands more are working part time with incomes barely sufficient to keep body and soul together. Permanent recovery is impossible until that situation is corrected."

60,000 Have Fled From Chancellor Hitler's Terrorism

Lausanne, Switzerland.—Sixty thousand persons have fled from Germany since Adolph Hitler and his Nazis came into power, James G. McDonald, the League of Nation's High Commissioner for Refugees from Germany, told his governing board here. Of these, he said, 51,065, or 86 per cent, were Jews by religion; 16,520 of them being non-Germans, Polish citizens, persons without nationality, and others.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c. A YEAR

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Union Hat Concern Reports 50 Per Cent Increase Under NRA

Mallory Hat Co. Head Says Present Indications Point to Greater Increase in Orders for Spring—Insurance Co. President States Increase from August to December 1 Was Three Millions Over First Six Months of the Year.

Reports of "heartening increases" in business as a result of the President's program were received during the week from widely scattered sections of the country. Among them, F. T. Joy, vice president of the Mallory Hat Company, wrote:

"The business of our company has increased over 50 per cent during the past season, and present bookings of orders for Spring indicate a larger increase over the corresponding period last year.

"We understand that a similar condition prevails throughout most of the hat industry, and we attribute this heartening increase to the recovery program of the President."

After paying tribute to "the high type of men selected by the Administration to deal with the industry," Mr. Joy's letter continued:

"We believe this code (Hat Industry) is a step forward for the industry. Factory hours have been reduced; wages have been increased, and more men and women are being employed; working conditions are greatly improved, with child labor, home work and sweat-shops banned; moreover, price-cutting and its attendant evils will be minimized, and many detrimental trade practices will be prohibited to the advantage of the industry.

"The Mallory Hat Company puts itself on record as being heartily in favor of the Hat Code as a contribution to the success of the National Recovery Act, which success we believe is insured."

A similar report of increased business for life insurance agents in 10 Southern States was contained in a telegram dispatched to General Johnson from Louisville, Ky., and signed by C. J. P. Lucas, Commonwealth Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Lucas wired: "From January first to July first, this year, we lost one million in business. From August first, to date, under NRA, we show increased business of three million, wiping out the million loss. Greatest increase is in industrial wage earners' policies since institution of NRA."

Mallory Hats are on sale at all leading clothing and furnishings stores, and bear the Union Label, which is a guarantee that they are made under strictly union conditions.

MORRISON PLEADS FOR SHORTER HOURS IN CODE NOW BEING HEARD TO FIX CONDITIONS FOR NATION'S RESTAURANTS

A. F. of L. Secretary Refers to 54-Hour Week and $9.72 Minimum Wage as Outrageous, and Will Not Help the 125,000 Unemployed Restaurant Workers—Flays Tipping System, Which He Said Should Be Abolished.

The 54-hour week which the National Restaurant Association seeks to impose upon restaurant workers by an NRA code of fair competition for the restaurant industry, will not create jobs for any of the 125,000 idle restaurant employes and consequently fails to carry out the underlying purpose of the National Recovery Act to provide re-employment for the unemployed.

This was the positive statement made by Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, in opening organized labor's objections to the code in the hearings held by the National Recovery Administration last week.

Unimpeachable Government statistics, Mr. Morrison declared, demonstrate that reduction of the length of the work week to 44 hours is absolutely necessary to put the idle in the restaurant industry back on the payroll.

Plague of Long Hours

In support of his demand for the 44-hour week, Mr. Morrison said:

"One of the most flagrant evils in the industry is the long work day and work week.

"Unlike department stores and factories, hours in restaurants are not and never have been standardized. Though an employe is paid for but a certain number of hours a week, let us say 48, his work day may be so arranged that his services extend over a very long day; frequently they extend from 6 a. m. to 8 p. m., seven days a week.

"Such exhaustive work periods allow the restaurant employe no leisure time to spend with his family, or in cultural pursuits; for this reason alone, the hours of labor should be drastically reduced.

125,000 Out of Work

"But both the National Recovery Administration and labor have an additional interest in hours of work. The purpose in providing maximum hours in a code of fair competition for an industry is to make possible the re-employment of jobless workers.

"Each industry is charged with the responsibility of re-employing all of its workers who have last their jobs during the depression.

"According to the Bureau of the Census, the 134,293 restaurant and eating places which report to the Bureau, employed in 1929 an average of 419,994 full-time workers, and 57,782 part-time workers, or a total of almost half a million employes. A majority of these employes are women.

"According to the best information at our command, some 25 per cent of these workers are still hunting jobs.

"The problem, then, that the National Recovery Administration sets for the restaurant industry to solve by a provision for maximum hours is the re-employment of some 125,000 restaurant employes who are now without jobs.

"Not only must the hours be limited to 44 per week, and 8 per day, but the period throughout any one day during which these hours may be worked must be limited to 10 consecutive hours per day, in order to guard against excessive splitting of shifts, which would defeat the purpose of the Administration.

"I believe, Mr. Administrator, that the facts on hours and employment show that a working day longer than the one requested in this brief will make it impossible for the restaurant industry to make an adequate contribution to the re-employment drive."

Low Wages Flayed

Mr. Morrison also flayed the minimum weekly wage of $9.72 which the restaurant employers presented as their conception of the standard of living to which restaurant employes are entitled. He said that the deductions for meals sanctioned by the code would enable employers to reduce even this low minimum to $2.72 cash per week, which, he declared "can mean nothing but starvation wages."

GREEN SAYS PEOPLE MIGHT WELL THANK ALMIGHTY GOD THAT CONGRESS PASSED NATIONAL RECOVERY ACT

Renewing Labor's Pledge to Support the President in His Efforts to Bring About Recovery. A. F. of L. Head Tells Detroit Audience "We Are Going to March Out of This Depression Into Enjoyment of a Better Day."

"Imagine what would have been the situation if we had no National Recovery Act this winter," said President William Green at a meeting held last week under the auspices of the Detroit Federation of Labor.

"Suppose we faced the rigors of this winter under the old order. Suppose there were still fourteen millions idle and the credit of our cities impaired, our taxpayers taxed beyond their ability to pay, impoverishing them, no money for food?

"What would have happened in every city with hungry men and women suffering for food? Would we not have had a most terrible condition in every city, town and community throughout the Nation?

"I say to you that every thinking American, every one who appreciates the seriousness of the situation as it is developed, might well thank Almighty God that Congress passed the National Recovery Act and subsidiary measures when they did in order to save our social system.

4,000,000 Idle Get Jobs

"Since March 4th armies of unemployed have been marching back to work. In addition, the purchasing power of this Nation has been lifted from 15 to 20 per cent. That means that the people can buy more and that means that business is going to improve. More goods are going to be sold. People will be able to pay their debts better. The volume of business and the sale of goods will increase and slowly, surely, progressively.

Back Up the President

"In my judgment, if we stand shoulder to shoulder behind our great President, Mr. Roosevelt, we are going to march out of this depression into the enjoyment of a better day and a better life.

"I have no patience with those who condemn and find fault with the National Recovery Act. Labor has not fared perfectly under it. We have complaints to make—many of them. We have not gotten all out of it that we hoped for or that we were entitled to, but the friends of Labor, the masses of the people, are not going to condemn the National Recovery Act because it does not bring us over-night all that we think we are entitled to.

"The American Federation of Labor and its hosts, the millions of workers whom it has the honor to represent, are going to stand behind a great fighting leader, a great President of the United States who actually is trying to do something for the masses of the people.

Apostles of Misery and Despair

"I have heard these criticisms coming from captains of industry, from those who chafe under the restraint, those who want to go back to the old order, those who believe that the fact that the Government is making them behave themselves is a transgression upon the rights of capital.

"We are in the army of progress, the army of hope and we are going to fight on until we overcome this terrible condition of unemployment."

Old Economic Order Abolished

Declaring that the National Recovery Act and its administration abolishes the old economic order and sets up a new regime, Mr. Green said:

"I am one of those who firmly believe we will never return to the old order.

"America is reborn. It is being remade. The old order failed, failed completely.

"Industrial processes, management, mass production, and industrial development made failure inevitable. We cannot go back to that. We cannot return to the days of 1930, 1931, 1932. Labor in America cannot permit a return.

"A new order is here, a new deal with Labor, is brought into the picture.

Happiness for the Masses

"Through the organization of Labor, through collective action, through the organization of industry and the workers, as provided for in the National Recovery Act, we can create a better order here.

"We can bring happiness and sunshine into the homes of the masses of the people and we can make it more profitable for them as well as for those who have their money invested in industry. Let us work together cooperating in this great, common, humane, heroic effort to bring about a realization of this great ideal."

Boston Neckwear Workers Halted by Police in Organizing

The conviction that the police are to side with employers in attempts to prevent working men and women from organizing in bona fide trade unions and carry on effective union work, is pointedly illustrated by the anti-union policy of the Boston police in their attempts to sandbag the efforts of women trade unionists in that city in their legitimate work of improving the economic condition of women workers.

This anti-labor policy in Boston was presented in concrete form to the 1933 convention of the American Federation of Labor in Washington by Mrs. Mary Gordon Thompson, president of the Boston local of the Women's Trade Union League, who specifically charged the Boston police with making unwarranted arrests of girl workers and assisting unpatriotic neckwear manufacturers, who are "chiseling" the National Recovery Act, in their militant endeavors to prevent the organization of their employes.

Mrs. Thompson declared that despite this breach of faith on the part of employers and city officials and consequent handicaps, the work of union organization is making rapid progress. She said:

"In Boston, at the present time, the neckwear workers are in a very bitter fight. Up to this year we have gone along very well since we organized them, and that was six years ago.

"The employers, despite the fact that we have the National Recovery Act at this time, have made up their minds that they are going to get out from under, using all the arguments that are usually used in such cases and telling these people that they will get their pay any way without belonging to a union.

"The police in Boston are using our girls in very bad fashion, and despite the fact that we have assured them that they have no need to be afraid to join any union, that it will not be used against them, that the employers will not dare, yet in Boston our girls are being arrested one at a time.

"These girls come from nice, respectable families, they have never had records in the police court, and today, because they are fighting for what is right they are being taken when there is no need or jurisdiction for it and they are getting police court records."

Bldg. Industry Shows Improvement in Oct., Says State Report

The number of building tradesmen employed by 716 contractors who reported to the State Department of Labor in October for the stated week, was 4,896, an increase of 253 as compared with the like period in September. There was an increase of 1,474 man-hours worked as compared with the previous month. Average hours worked per week, per man, were 29.7 in October, a decrease of slightly over 4 per cent.

Wages totaled $114,694, with average earnings per week per man, $23.43, or 79 cents per hour. For the corresponding week in September, total wages were $116,335, with average wages of $25.06 at the rate of 80.9 cents an hour.

Taken as a whole, employment shows a decline of 12 per cent under 1931, with payrolls 22.5 per cent below that year.

Road Construction Shows Decline

The number of workmen employed by the 86 highway contractors reporting in October, was slightly over 3,000, an increase of 229 workmen as compared with September. Total number of man-hours worked during the stated week in October was 129,000, an increase of 17,880 hours, or 16 per cent as compared with September.

Amount of wages paid during the stated week in October was slightly over $70,000, and average earnings per week, per man, were $23.33, or 59 cents per hour. For the corresponding week in September, the total amount paid in wages was 60,537. Employment, however, was 8 per cent below October, 1932, and the amount paid in wages, almost 32 per cent below.

General Employment

In 11 cities which are important trading centers, all but three show employment gains, the losses quoted amounting in two of the cities to less than one per cent. Springfield shows the largest gain, followed by Pittsfield and Boston in the order named.

Worcester shows a gain of just under one per cent, while the average for the State is 1.4. The gains were very evenly distributed and without marked specialization in the various trade activities reported.

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WATT REFERS TO NATIONAL RECOVERY ACT AS "BILL OF RIGHTS" AT SPECIAL CONVENTION OF STATE CARPENTERS

Meeting Held in Worcester Labor Temple Last Week Discussed Means Through Which Building Trades Crafts Could Benefit From CWA Projects—Central Committee Named to Investigate Complaints—Unqualified Support Pledged for Roosevelt Program.

Worcester, Mass., December 11th. — In his forceful and characteristic manner, Robert J. Watt, secretary-treasurer and legislative agent for the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, declared the N. R. A. is to be the "Wage Earners' Bill of Rights," at the special convention held by the Massachusetts State Council of Carpenters, held here last week.

"Never in the history of the country have organized wage earners been afforded such an opportunity to organize and benefit through governmental cooperation as at present," said Mr. Watt, when referring to Section 7 (a) of the National Recovery Act, "and if wage earners fail to take proper advantage of this opportunity, it will be just too bad for them."

The speaker said he is amazed over the enthusiasm manifested by the masses of unorganized workers, who "realize the importance of joining our unions," but took occasion to criticise organizations because of their lack of activities at this time, when such excellent opportunities are afforded to increase their membership rolls.

Mr. Watt expressed impatience with those who are unfairly criticising the NRA, and by this means are retarding its progress. He forcibly brought out what had already been accomplished, and felt confident that if patience is exercised it won't be long before increased employment and the increased purchasing power of 4,000,000 workers already re-employed, will reflect itself on the building and other basic industries.

Faith in the President

He expressed implicit faith in the President and felt certain that with proper cooperation on the part of working people, there can be no doubt regarding the success of his plan for putting back to work millions of more people.

The special convention was called for the purpose of taking means for meeting conditions brought about by the establishment of the Civil Works Act, and to accomplish this, it was voted to name a central committee to consider all data, investigate complaints and to function on behalf of affiliated locals through a central office to be established in Boston for that purpose.

Claiming that confusion has arisen in various parts of the State because inexperienced men claim a rating when registering for jobs on CWA projects, representatives of local unions were urged to investigate classifications and if unable to adjudicate differences with local administrators, to report matters to the central office.

A resolution favoring the establishment of uniform dues and initiation fees throughout the State was discussed at length, but action was deferred until the annual convention, to be held next month in Boston.

Whole-hearted cooperation with the President in his efforts to return men to productive employment, was pledged in another resolution.

Encouraging Reports

E. A. Johnson, president, and Representative James P. Meehan, secretary, of the Massachusetts State Building Trades Council, were other speakers, who, besides pledging cooperation also spoke encouragingly regarding possibilities for improved conditions under the National Recovery Act.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners was represented by Organizer Charles N. Kimball, who outlined in detail conditions existing in the New England district. Mr. Kimball said that while there had been some improvement in the building industry, for the most part this proved of greater benefit to common labor than it did to skilled mechanics.

He advised all officials of local unions to become especially active and see to it that organized building trades workers get a square deal on CWA projects, saying this will help materially in furnishing employment for several weeks during the Winter months.

Edwin Thompson of Beverly, acted as chairman, and Frank Chappell of Pittsfield, secretary, and Bennett F. Gordon, reading clerk.

Those named to act as a central committee, with headquarters at 470 Stewart street, Boston, are John G. Dunphy, Daniel H. Kearney and Chas. N. Kimball, all of Boston.

MADISON

News-Print Code Seriously Affects Firemen and Oilers

Writing from Madison, and announcing that members of his organization had just started work under the newly established newsprint code, Secretary Brion Moody, of Local 270 of the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, says reductions in wages range from $3 to $10 weekly, according to their occupations.

As regulated by the code, the wage schedule is based on the hourly rate received by employes in 1932, and proves anything but satisfactory.

Officers of Local 270 are as follows: President, John F. Redmond; vice president, Stanley Wright; secretary-treasurer, Brion Moody. The auditors are Thomas Moore, Leslie Davis and David Holway.

With the establishment of the news-print, paper and pulp codes, and a better understanding with foreign countries through proposed legislation when Congress convenes, it is hoped the industry will improve sufficiently to warrant conditions that will prove more satisfactory to all employed in the industry.

AND NOW THEY'RE USING UTILITY COMMISSIONERS FOR MORE PROPAGANDA AGAINST BIG MUSCLE SHOALS PROJECT

It wouldn't do to permit the Muscle Shoals project to become a successful development. It would demonstrate the possibility for providing power and light at a low cost, and this would prove objectionable to big power companies, who would be compelled to lower their rates.

So, a new scheme has been concocted. The powers-that-be got State Utilities Commissions throughout the country together at the big plant. They had them investigate the entire proposition and their report is to the effect that Muscle Shoals, if carried on by the Government instead of being privately operated, will prove a positive failure.

The fine hand of propagandists against this Government project, which is a part of the President's program to put men back to work, is contained in the following article, taken from the current issue of the Industrial News Review:

"Utilities Commissioners Look at Muscle Shoals

"Muscle Shoals is meeting an increasingly cold response among those who really understand the problems of generating and distributing electric power.

"Latest instances of this occurred at the meeting of the State utilities commissioners—who are unbiased authorities if anybody or group is—at Cincinnati. The Tennessee Valley Authority, when it came up for discussion, was just about friendless. Most of the delegates—and they came from all parts of the country and represented all political factions—were opposed to government ownership of power plants. They foresaw unhealthy and unwarranted results if the Federal government goes into competition with private business.

"Their objections to Muscle Shoals were too many and too varied to detail. A few will suffice. Commissioners said, for example, that there is a surprising amount of vagueness and uncertainty about the whole thing. They couldn't figure out how the Authority can quote power rates when the project is still in the nebulous stage. They offered the opinion that costs can't be accurately determined until much more is known about actual operating conditions. And they tended to the conclusion that, in the long run, Muscle Shoals power, if the accounts are kept as they are in private plants, will prove to be more expensive than power from a well-run private concern.

"This may seem a little confusing to the private citizen who has been hearing much of the glories of Muscle Shoals, but there it is. The joker in the project is that immense stress has been laid on the potential cheapness of producing power at the Shoals, while questions of distribution have been minimized. As a matter of fact, in any power plant, public or private, production cost is a very small item, and distribution cost a very large one. The cost of power at a dam is a very minor per cent of what the same power costs a company by the time it is ready for the customer to use.

"The conclusions of this body of utilities commissioners are based on facts, not fancies. And these officials know what they are talking about."

Code Authority in Retail Trade Bars Pay Slash

Holding that any action that breaks down minimum wage levels set up by NRA codes tends to break down the recovery program, the Retail Code Authority of New York City has refused permission to a Manhattan clothing merchant to reduce wages $2 below the minimum fixed by the code.

The clothing merchant, who employs 1,500 persons, asked permission to pay his employes a minimum of $12 a week instead of the $14 code minimum. He was directed by the code authority to increase at once the minimum wage in his store to the $14 level. By resolution of the board, the name of the merchant was not made public. In denying the petition, Grover A. Whalen, chairman of the code authority, said:

"To grant the petition would be to attack the basic wage provisions of the retail code, and of all industrial codes. Such action might well have unfortunate repercussions throughout the nation.

> "We do not intend to be responsible for reducing the minimum wage which the code allows. That is one of the vital features of the President's recovery program. Any action that tends to break down that provision tends to break down the recovery program.

"Nor do we intend that any retailer shall have an advantage under the code which any other retailer cannot have. That would be a violation of the spirit of fair competition which the retail code guarantees.

"The code authority intends to administer the retail code with justice, but it intends to enforce that code. We believe that the granting of an exception to the applicant, with respect to wages, would be an injustice not only to the employes of that store but to retailers with whom that store competes and who are paying he minimum wage."

WOLL QUOTES WEBSTER AS HAVING OPPOSED MONETARY PLAN AS DEVISED BY PRES. ROOSEVELT, IN NEW YORK SPEECH

Vice President of A. F. of L. and Head of Union Labor Life Insurance Co. Joins Al Smith and Bankers in Criticizing What Administration Considers Big Factor in Recovery Program.

Matthew Woll, vice president of the A. F. of L. and president of the Union Labor Life Insurance Co., who was the principal speaker at a joint meeting sponsored by the A. F. of L., the Crusaders of America, and the American Levion, at Carnegie Hall last Monday evening, joined with "Al" Smith, a group of bankers and others in opposition to President Roosevelt's monetary policy.

Mr. Woll told the gathering that "there are an increasing number of our people who honestly and conscientiously question the soundness of the course being followed" and that the three organizations had entered into an active alliance "for the preservation of sound monetary policies and the safeguarding of fixed incomes of the great mass of our people."

Cites Support

"It cannot poossibly be said that American organized labor has been unsympathetic with the present national government, nor unfriendly toward our President. Nevertheless, organized labor has been alert to the urgency of the present monetary situation and has expressed its fears and apprehensions as well as its attitude in no uncertain terms.

"There is very definite and great risk to all the wage earners and salaried employes in every movement for currency inflation and price raising devised. In all of the experiences of inflation the wage earners and salaried employes have suffered pathetically, not only in the shrinking value of their wages, but in the loss of their savings in banks and such life insurance returns with which they may have been able to pr[illegible] their beloved ones.

Quotes Webster

"No more striking example of the truth can be seen than in the words of Daniel Webster, that 'of all the contrivances for cheating the laboring classes of mankind, none has been more effective than that which deludes them with paper money.'

"While methods may differ as between an outright reduction of wages by actual deduction in the amount of money received and by depreciating the value of currency received, nevertheless the result is the same.

> **"And this brings to the immediate attention of labor the necessity of hereafter demanding that its wage stipulations, whether fixed by collective agreements or by means of codification under the NRA, shall be based upon a formula that will include a simultaneous and constant change corresponding to the exchange value of the currency received for wages.**
>
> **"Unless such considerations are manifested and such a formula is applied, we may well prepare for an uprising on the part of labor in protest of being forced to bear still further burdens of life and work that might have been avoided.**

"Certain it is that the National Recovery program upon which the workers have placed so much of their hope and faith, will fail of its purpose if it does not embrace a higher income in addition to a more secured opportunity of employment."

Curley Enters Monetary Fray

Mayor James M. Curley of Boston fired back at Alfred E. Smith and the other critics of the President's monetary program with the prediction that eventually the "rubber dollar and baloney phrase-makers" would be appraised by the public as "worshippers of the golden calf."

Said Mayor Curley: "The brutal assaults on President Roosevelt and the persistent sniping of his National Recovery Act is part of the program to maintain a system of finance that has become obsolete and through which 80 per cent of the people have been impoverished for the enrichment of 20 per cent of the people."

In his speech to more than 6,000 enthusiasts in New York on Monday evening, during which he gave opponents of President Roosevelt's monetary policies a sound thrashing, Father Charles E. Coughlin took occasion to rap Matthew Woll, and incidentally, to criticise the American Federation of Labor.

The "radio priest" said:

"It's not my province to enter into politics, but it is my province to talk politics, and with all my strength I shall endeavor to inject the living doctrines of Christ into those who make laws and who govern the people.".

Referring to a "sound money" mass meeting in Carnegie Hall, Father Coughlin said Matthew Woll, a vice president of the American Federation of Labor, told that audience the President's program "might prove a stumbling block to the administration's program."

> **"It will be a stumbling block, all right. A stumbling block to those over whose offices should be flying the Union Jack."**

Declaring that as soon as Mr. Roosevelt endeavors to restore the prosperity of the nation as he said it existed in 1926 under President Coolidge, he is "damned as a crackpot."

"That's the kind of tommyrot that Al Smith and Morgan and the rest of them are trying to exploit for the purpose of forwarding not capitalism, but Morganism."

The year 1926 was a "great Republican year," Father Coughlin sadi. "It was a year when the dollar was worth 100 cents. And that's what Roosevelt is trying to give us now."

Referring to the opposition of Matthew Woll to the presidential program, the priest criticised the American Federation of Labor.

"The Federation was not able to close the sweat shops and abolish child labor until Mr. Roosevelt came along, and now one of its vice presidents joins the cry of tommyrot against the President," he declared.

Good Things to Eat at First National Stores

Christmas time is drawing nigh and all the good housekeepers are keenly alive to the advantages of making early and timely purchases to carry over the great holiday of the year.

The First National Stores are ably cooperating with them in their offerings of all things necessary for the table. Their list of food offerings this week includes many attractive items such as cracked-wheat bread, a large 20-ounce loaf of which may be bought for eight cents. Then there are the Mirabel preserves, pure fruit and sugar and including all the favorites as raspberry, strawberry, pineapple and others.

Mild cheese, Libby's corned beef, smoked shoulders, tomato catsup and other specialties swell the list of good things to eat at these stores. A full line of A-1 canned goods, fruits, nuts and spices, all to be had at the lowest prices—at the always reliable First National Stores.

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Message From Executive Council, Maine State Federation of Labor, to Officers and Members of Affiliated Organizations

"Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men"

Again we welcome the old, yet ever new greeting, as the Christmas Season inspires us with gratitude for Local Union officers and members with whom we have enjoyed pleasanter associations and mutual endeavors, in our work for organized Labor.

We welcome the coming of the new year with grateful appreciation for the achievements of organised Labor during the year which is closing, and the loyal cooperation of Central Bodies, Local Unions and all Members—united in the dynamic chain of organization and fraternity.

May the Christmas Season turn our thoughts to God, who created us to be happy, to have and enjoy the blessings of life, to be useful to our fellow-beings, and an honor to our country.

May the season's atmosphere help us to believe that the trials which beset us today are but the fiery tests by which our character is strengthened, ennobled and made worthy to enjoy the better things of life, which we trust, in the near future, are in store for the workers.

In the closing of the old year, may we be inspired to believe that our soul is too grand to be crushed by defeat; let us be determined to rise above it.

May the failures of the closing year guide us to victory in the new year. We hope the coming of the new year will bring you new strength, new hopes, new opportunities to have and enjoy the things of life which we labor to create.

Let us be determined to meet the New Year with a brave heart, a calm mind and a courageous spirit, to assert our God-given birthright, and acquit ourselves like men.

Members of organized Labor, workers throughout the State and our dear land of "America the Beautiful," our Christmas joy would not be complete without the valued possession of your loyalty and friendship.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,
MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

PLANS COMPLETE IN NEW YORK FOR STARTING FEDERATION OF SILK WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE INDUSTRY BY U. T. W.

Meeting of All Silk Unions in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Rhode Island to Be Held Some Time in January for This Purpose—United Textile Workers' Executive Board Discusses General Strike to Enforce 30-Hour Work Week.

(Special to The Labor News)

New York City, December 11th. — The Executive Council of the United Textile Workers of America, at its quarterly meeting, held at Bible House, this city, devoted the entire session of Friday to the consideration, and the devising of ways and means to secure the 30-hour work-week in the textile industry, and also to have Section 7 (a) of the National Industrial Recovery Act, relating to the collective bargaining provision, amended by Congress in order to offset the attempts of employers who are using technical means in order to avoid recognition of the unions.

President Thomas F. McMahon announced that his organization would certainly answer the challenge of the National Association of Manufacturers, and would fight bitterly against what is now discovered to be an organized attempt to defeat the purposes of the National Industrial Recovery Act and drive Labor back to a defenseless position.

The executive council adopted a resolution urging the American Federation of Labor to call a special convention for the purpose of considering the advisability of a general strike to enforce the six-hour day and the 30-hour week. The resolution, in part, explained that the people of the United States cannot buy food and shelter in the midst of plenty, when all kinds of necessities of life are rotting before the eyes of those who are forced to go hungry and live in hovels. The production of the factories in the land increased 40 per cent in the past 10 years and the actual work week only decreased 14 per cent.

The United Textile Workers, in all of the codes, has asked for the 30-hour work-week, and it is the belief of the organization, if all of the affiliated unions of the American Federation of Labor will come together, this necessary reduction in hours can be secured.

It was voted, also, to communicate with General Hugh Johnson, Administrator of the Recovery Act, asking for representation on all textile codes, pointing out that at the present time, in all parts of the country, violations of the code are threatening to disrupt the beneficial purposes of the Recovery Act.

Plans for the setting up of a Federation composed of silk workers throughout the industry were completed, and a meeting of all silk unions will be called some time in January for this purpose.

The Executive Council Members attending the meeting came from all parts of the United States, representing all divisions of the textile industry.

By unanimous vote, it was decided to communicate with General Johnson, protesting against the insertion of Article 17 in the Cotton Textile Code, the union contending that Section 3 of this article sets up a form of company union, and was placed in the code after the approval by the President and without consultation with Labor.

The Council also voted to communicate with the Administration in Washington, asking for labor representation on all textile code authorities.

FIRST EFFORT TOWARD ERECTION OF LOW-COST HOMES TO BE MADE IN DETROIT WITH THREE MILLION FUND

The Government has taken positive action in moving to provide better low cost housing for workers. An allotment of $100,000,000 for this purpose has been made [illegible] Detroit has been selected as the [illegible] point for construction purposes. It will be a slum clearance project under general Federal supervision.

This will take the form of apartment house construction containing almost 3,000 rooms and which will rent for about $6 a room. The buildings will cost about $3,000,000 to $4,000,000 each and a score of other cities aside from Detroit will share in the enterprise. Secretary Ickes is directing the agency having the general program in charge. It is stated, however, that such slum-clearance houses will not be built on any land for which prohibitive prices are demanded. In other words, the Government will not allow itself to be held up by land boom speculators.

Another prior condition is that the State shall first approve the formation of a corporation to eventually take over the project. The Detroit building project, which will consist of a row of two-story houses, will provide employment for 2,000 men for six months.

It is to be noted that the general plan is opposed by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, which favors employing private capital instead of Government financing and control.

Denver Trolleymen Abandon Co. Union and Join Amalgamated

The company union scheme was given a black eye in Denver, Colo., when employes of the Denver Tramway Corporation voted 353 to 325 to substitute the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes for a "company representative committee" as their agency for collective bargaining under the NRA code. Joseph S. Myers, Conciliator of the United States Department of Labor, presided over the election.

The election was called at the request of tramway employes who had organized a union under the leadership of P. J. O'Brien, representing the Amalgamated Association, in a membership campaign of only a few weeks. Howard S. Robertson, president of the tramway firm, a signatory of the national transit code, agreed to the election and announced that the company would abide completely by the result, both in letter and spirit.

Officers of Division No. 1001, the organization now designated to enter into contractual relations with the company, say it is a question of only a short time when all the employes will be in the union and working harmoniously for the betterment of the service. More than 700 employes are eligible for membership.

John W. Honsberger was elected as president of the division; James S. McDonnell, vice president; Louis J. Wallen, financial secretary; William L. Ellis, treasurer, and George W. Goodfellow, recording secretary.

A. F. OF L. CALLS UPON UNION OFFICIALS TO ASSIST IN ORGANIZING RETAIL CLERKS, LAUNDRY WORKERS AND QUARRY MEN

Pursuant to action taken at the Washington convention of the American Federation of Labor, the Executive Council in a letter received by Secretary Burgess recently, urges officials of State Federations, Central bodies and local unions and organizers to render all possible assistance in organizing retail clerks, laundry workers and quarry workers.

President Green refers particularly to Resolutions Nos. 16, 69 and 102, adopted by the convention, the first of which recommended that all organized labor should patronize retail establishments which display the Blue Eagle, as well as the union store card which guarantees fair wages and working conditions and, further, that in the purchasing of goods preference be given to places where union emblems are displayed, or union buttons worn.

Resolution No. 69 requests assistance for the Quarry Workers' International Union in the efforts to organize the men in this industry.

Resolution No. 102 appeals to State and central bodies to inaugurate a special organizing campaign among the laundry workers, and appeal for the full cooperation of Federation organizers.

"The American Federation of Labor volunteer organizers and the organizing committees of the State and central bodies are already doing yeoman service in responding to the urgent appeals for aid and help in organizing the unorganized," the letter states.

"Notwithstanding the many demands which are being made constantly for such help, I am bringing the above Resolutions to your special attention in conformity with the directions of the Washington convention, feeling assured that you will respond as generously and promptly as you have always done in the past."

"Continuing, Mr. Green states:

"There have been many new unions organized and many new workers accepted to membership in existing local unions—already an addition of new members between two and three million. This sudden and great influx of membership in our organized Labor movement brings with it grave responsibilities. These new members must be trained; they must be taught; they must be disciplined; they must be educated in trade union principles, policies and practices. They must be brought to an understanding that they are a genuine part of the organized Labor movement.

"It is not sufficient that they should merely hold membership in and pay their dues to the unions of their trades and callings, as part of the American Federation of Labor, but they must be brought to an understanding of our trade union philosophy, its policies, its principles and the part which each of them must play in the furtherance of our great aims and purposes. While it is true that this gradual educational process begins in the local unions themselves, yet, a great responsibility rests upon the State bodies and the central bodies and the experienced organizers in suggesting and recommending ways and means for such education, planning for meetings and providing speakers."

WATCHFUL WAITING

(Continued from Page 1)

Frank Robie, and said to be favored by Representative Benjamin S. Stern of Biddeford, who is given much credit for the passage of the old age assistance bill, would direct 30 per cent of the proceeds to provide funds to finance old age assistance.

From all indications, according to officials of the Federation, there is a likelihood that the Robie bill will be adopted.

As a means for relieving distress among the unemployed, and to provide additional unemployment I found much interest manifested in the Governor's recommendation to submit a constitutional amendment to the people for increasing the State's temporary borrowing capacity from $800,000 to $2,000,000. The concensus of opinion regarding this is that a grave error was committed when a similar amendment was killed at last Fall's election, and that now that the purpose of the amendment is better understood by the electorate, the Legislature may look upon this with favor.

The Liquor Question

Throughout the State, and especially in larger cities and towns, I heard much discussion concerning the liquor question. My meetings with men in all walks of life, including business and professional men, those prominently identified with civic, fraternal and labor organizations, convinced me that the sentiment for the repeal of the State's liquor law is exceptionally strong, and that in full realization of this sentiment, the Legislature will be forced to take definite action in this matter.

Governor Brann's recommendations in this respect were clear and concise, and while definite action cannot be taken until the September elections, provisions for handling this problem until then must be made.

Much interest is manifested in the legislative proceedings relative to liquor legislation, and it may even be that the courts will be called upon to decide as to just what can be done under the circumstances.

Another matter that is attracting the attention of Labor representatives is a bill proposed by Senator Robie which would permit the showing of moving pictures on Sunday. Action along this line, it will be recalled, was started by the New England District Union of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Moving Picture Operators at their semi-annual convention, held in Worcester a year ago, when a legislative committee was named to cover every State in New England, and a report of the progress made at another convention held in Worcester a few weeks ago.

Sunday Movies

Maine is one of the few States in the country which does not permit the showing of moving pictures on Sundays, and hopes are entertained that Senator Robie's bill will be favorably considered.

On my previous trips about the State, I found the banking situation reflected seriously on general business, and that it had also badly affected the financial condition of labor organizations, whose funds are tied up throughout the State. I found a different attitude during my rounds of the State during the past week, this being due to recent action by the government in aid of closed banks, and from which depositors will benefit materially.

Revived confidence in the general banking situation is also reflected through proposed bills at the special legislative session, and urged by Gov. Brann, that would prohibit chain banking and holding company control, and interlocking directorates, and which would place the liquidation of State banks under the supervision of the State Bank Commissioner.

Other legislation over which considerable interest was manifested is the governor's recommendation to permit loan and building associations to exchange mortgages for bonds of the Home Owners Loan Corporation, another to establish an unpaid commission on interstate compacts affecting labor and industry, and legislation to permit the Federal government to purchase land in the State for the establishment of a national forest in the vicinity of Mount Katahdin.

All of the governor's recommendations are looked upon as constructive, and thought out for bringing the State of Maine into line with other progressive States. The rapid growth of the State from an industrial as well as agricultural standpoint, its importance from a maritime outlook, and its other many advantages, including the ambition to make it the nation's summer vacation-land, are all matters that tend to overcome the desire expressed by a small minority to retain old standards and customs.

A Progressive Citizenry

The great majority of the people are thinking along progressive lines. They want better roads, they favor a more liberal system of dispensing liquors, they favor better banking laws, they are opposed to child labor, and contend it is the duty of the State to provide for its old and indigent citizens. They are opposed to the proposed sales tax, believing that people whose incomes are the largest should pay the greatest proportion of the expenses of the State. They favor more liberal Sunday laws, that will permit those whose earnings are small to be able to get some enjoyment out of their leisure hours on Sundays.

They are against the present system which permits a judge to grant injunctions against working people on the mere request of employers, and want to make permanent a State law that will protect working people from the many abuses to which they have been subjected. They want to abolish child labor, contending this to be right not only from an economic standpoint, but to increase the intelligence of the growing children by education.

Straight-Forward Demand

To members of the Legislature now in special session, they look for relief through several of the measures now being considered, and in a determined manner say to them: The people of the State of Maine were never so determined as they are now to demand their rights—and we look to you, Messrs. Senators and Representatives, as our representatives in the Maine Legislature, to give us a square deal."

Pawtucket Silk Strike Reported to be Nearer Settlement

Word received from officials of the United Textile Workers' Union in Pawtucket, just as The Labor News is going to press, is to the effect that the 4,000 strikers in 14 silk mills may return to work in a few days.

Authority for this statement came from Albert J. Lamarre, commissioner of public works in Pawtucket, who for several weeks has acted as intermediary between the factory owners and the employes, and who in a conference with Governor Green yesterday, at which representatives of Labor were also present, he expressed confidence regarding the early settlement of existing difficulties.

The strike was caused because of failure on the part of manufacturers to pay a minimum wage of $25 a week which was the amount stipulated in a decision by the National Labor Board.

How Details Are Worked Out Operating Cotton Textile Code

How industry is already policing itself under the NRA is revealed in information forwarded to the Massachusetts State Recovery Board. Robert Amory, president of the Nashua Manufacturing Co., informed the board of the organization that has already been set up under the Textile Code, the first permanent code adopted in the country. Information was also received as to the administration of the Petroleum Code.

Enforcement of the Cotton Textile Code, according to Amory, lies in the first instance with the Code Authority, which is a committee composed of about 30 heads of mills, with the addition of three men appointed by the government. These are Gen. Johnson, Nelson Slater and Dr. Leo Wolman.

The Code Authority employs a number of field agents, through the Cotton Textile Institute, who go from mill to mill throughout the country, checking up on the observance of the code and examining payrolls.

Every mill must report to the New York office of the Code Authority every four weeks the hourly pay in each department—minimum, average and maximum—and the hours run in each department. This is an additional precaution beside the field agents. Reports are also made to the Code Authority in regard to production, sales, stocks and unfilled orders.

In the case of any complaint in regard to working conditions in any mill, the Code states that the employes are to appoint three members of a committee and the management three, in an endeavor to settle the matter.

If the matter cannot be settled, it is then referred to a State or regional committee, composed of one member representing labor, one representing management, and one the public. If this committee cannot settle the matter, it is then referred to the Cotton Textile National Industrial Relations Committee, in Washington, which consists of Dr. Bruere, Major Berry, president of the International Printing Pressmen's Union, representing labor, anl Mr. Geer, representing management.

LABOR TO BE

(Continued from Page 1)

pointedly countered by President Lewis, whc declared that trade secrets held by the coal operators are known by the union representatives. Miss Rose Schneiderman, of the Women's Trade Union League, made a similar declaration regarding the handkerchief and other industries.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, declared that practically every subject coming under the code authorities has a direct or indirect bearing on labor. He pointed out that the question of whether business concerns make a profit and can pay decent wages directly affect labor, and that policies bearing upon price and profit are to be the major concern of the code authorities.

Operators' Jurisdictional Disputes

Mr. Lewis said that one jurisdictional dispute between two divisional bituminous coal code authorities as to which was empowered to fix prices for its area led to the enforced idleness of 2,000 men for nearly two months. He added that labor representation on the National Coal Board would undoubtedly insist that such disputes end.

The details of adequate labor representation remain to be worked out. It was suggested that an arrangement be made in all codes similar to that in the soft coal industry, which has six labor mediation boards, according to geographical arrangement of the coal fields.

Each board has three members, one representing labor, one representing industry, with an impartial chairman. Instead of being responsible to the Code Authority, the labor boards are responsible to the Recovery Administrator.

A DETERMINED WORKING CLASS, WHO WERE TREATED WITH INDIFFERENCE, ELECTED A WORKER AS MAYOR OF BRIDGEPORT

Daniel R. Donovan, a former organizer for the International Association of Machinists, now executive secretary for the Continental Congress of Workers and Farmers, who is making a tour of the New England States, and an old friend of Jasper McLevy, recently elected mayor of Bridgeport, Conn., told a group of trade unionists during the week how the working people of that city put over their candidate for mayor.

"Jasper McLevy," he said, "was not elected mayor because he is a Socialist, and neither were others who were on the ticket with him. His election was a distinct protest by the workers of Bridgeport because of the indifferent manner in which they were treated by the last and previous administrations, and the severe trouncing administered to both Democratic and Republican bosses of that city should serve as an object lesson to the political bosses of other cities, who have acquired the habit of referring to the labor vote as of a negligible quantity.

"Well!" Mr. Donovan said. "They've found out what Labor can do in the city of Bridgeport when it becomes aroused, and I feel certain that in this instance, as has been the case in other cities, when Labor fully realizes its voting power, regardless of party affiliations, it will be the recipient of greater attention on the part of machine politicians in the future.

"Jasper McLevy is just a plain, unvarnished working man. He is a roofer by trade, and notwithstanding his Socialistic tendencies, he has never, in my recollection, permitted his politics to interfere with his trade unionism. He is known for his honesty of purpose, and regarded as one who possesses sufficient ability to administer the affairs of the city, he was given support by the great majority of workers in Bridgeport.

"He is a powerful and convincing speaker, and my recollection of him when we spoke on the same platforms, while I was associated as organizer for the I. A. M., was that he knew what to say and how to say it, and possessed the happy faculty of keeping his audience intensely interested in his subject.

"Workers in the whole nation will keep in close touch with Jasper McLevy's administration of the affairs of Bridgeport, as they are watching Mayor Hoan's in Milwaukee, and worker-mayors of other cities, and this may have a tendency to inspire them to unite in making possible similar conditions in their own cities," Mr. Donovan said in closing.

FEDERAL EMPLOYES HOPEFUL THAT CONGRESS WILL RE-ADJUST CONDITIONS WHEN RE-CONVENING IN JANUARY

Replies From Questionnaire Addressed to Members of Congress Strengthen Belief That Senate and House Will Be in a Frame of Mind to Lift Burdens Imposed Upon Government Employes.

The tenor of the replies being received by the American Federation of Government Employes to its questionnaire addressed to members of Congress strengthens the belief that the Senate and the House upon re-convening will be in a frame of mind to readjust the burden now imposed upon the employes of the Government.

This burden goes farther than the reduction in pay which those employes have suffered. It goes to the refusal of the Government to recognize merit and ability by granting well-earned promotions. It goes to the denial of proper sick and annual leave. It goes to the severe blighting of the merit system in the civil service.

In general, the Congress when it meets in January, will have to deal with the question of whether the Federal Government is to go back to an enlightened and reasonable policy of dealing with its personnel or whether it is to countenance in its own offices and shops conditions which it is trying to eliminate in private industry.

Judging from the telegrams and letters received by the Federation, Congress will take the path back to decency instead of persisting along the roadway which was hurriedly laid down by the so-called "economy sessions."

According to announcements of the Federation, more than 100 Senators and Representatives have declared that they favor restoration of the full pay in the Government service. That number, of course, is not conclusive. But it does furnish a satisfactory nucleus upon which to build a majority in both houses.

The intimations which come from the White House of the interest which President Roosevelt is displaying in the survey of living costs likewise is encouraging, and there is sound reason to believe that on the first of the new year the President will take steps to restore at least a part of the salary cut.

It is difficult to see how the figures now being gathered could fail to bring about such action. The prices of all commodities have risen greatly in the last few months, particularly in Washington. This increase, coupled with the readjustment in the method of computing living costs which has been made by the Department of Labor, undoubtedly will produce a figure which will warrant favorable action by the President.

There is some danger, however, that Federal workers and their friends would accept a restoration of lost pay by the President as a complete victory. That should not be. The evil which has been visited upon Federal workers has not been confined to the pay cuts and if victory is to be achieved it must go farther than mere restoration of normal salaries.

Executive action on the pay cuts should not be allowed to end the matter. Success in the fight for the return of decent conditions can only be obtained through legislative action.

Prof. Fisher Strongly Endorses President's Monetary Policy

The time has now arrived when the leading economists and financial authorities in the country are at loggerheads as to what constitutes a gold dollar. Speaking at a meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Prof. Irving Fisher of Yale University declared himself in accord with the monetary policy of President Roosevelt. Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma declared that he was opposed to inflation, meaning the improper and excessive use of either currency or credit.

At the meeting, also, was James Warburg, recently a financial adviser to the government. It is supposed he will support Dr. O. M. W. Sprague, who recently resigned from the United States Treasury in a protest against anticipated inflation.

Prof. Fisher claimed that the great mass of the public does not understand monetary affairs and that the number of dollars of gold in the country can be increased to any desired extent by reducing the gold content without adding to the gold stock. However, as billions of dollars of obligations are now outstanding, payable in gold dollars "of the present weight and fineness," such contracts conflict sharply with the theory of unlimited dilution as proposed by Prof. Fisher.

Prof. Fisher paid high tribute to Dr. Sprague, who resig[illegible] as monetary adviser to Presiden[illegible]velt, but said his authority on go[illegible]lation to prices is not comparable [illegible] of Dr. George F. Warren, of Cornell University, who is the present financial adviser to the President.

Forest Fires Decrease 50 Per Cent in 1933, CCC Director Says

Robert Fechner, former vice president of the International Association of Machinists, and director of the Emergency Conservation Work, recently announced that figures reaching his office disclosed that the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps, which is under his direction, and the personnel of the regular Federal forest fire suppression agencies, had effected an average reduction in fire losses for all Federal forest lands amounting to 50 per cent for the first 10 months of 1933. Approximately 32 per cent of the nation's 600 million acres of forests are Federally controlled.

The national forest area burned over for the first 10 months was 142,444 acres, compared with a five-year average of 600,875 acres annually. This is the lowest area burned over for the period since 1906, and in terms of percentage of total national forest area it is the lowest on record, the Department of Agriculture said.

Trade unionists may well be proud of the work of Mr. Fechner in directing the Civilian Conservation Corps. The fire prevention and control work of the corps is part of the fire record of the corps and justifies its establishment, apart from the other good it has accomplished. The forests are one of the nation's most valued assets and there is hardly any more important matter than their protection.

Coal Code Helps Miners and Operators, Says Coal Executive

Bluefields, W. Va., Dec. 11.—Both miners and operators have received large benefits from the code of fair competition for the bituminous coal industry, declared C. B. Huntress, executive secretary of the National Coal Association, in an address here before the West Virginia Coal Mining Institute.

"We cannot boast, as the steel industry does, of putting back to work a sizeable number of men," Mr. Huntress said. "But we can point with pride to the millions of dollars added to payrolls, and few will deny that established wage scales have introduced a much-needed element of stability. The code has fixed a level below which competitive pressure can not force wages.

"President Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America is confident the code will prove a boon to both miner and producer, and he has demonstrated complete willingness to work to that end."

Mr. Huntress said that "substantial savings have been effected through elimination of unfair and unwholesome practices," adding: "This coding business is no longer a theory. The name-calling stage is passed. It is up to coal operators to cooperate or close up."

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A. F. of L. Monthly Survey Notes Trade Upturn

"Payroll totals were still moving upward in October, and as living costs rose only 0.1 per cent, workers' total 'real' buying power increased from 20.3 per cent (September) to 23.1 per cent (October) above the March level," says the American Federation of Labor in its monthly survey, published during the week.

"Farmers' buying power has also been increased by the gain in farm prices in November and by government payments of more than $100,000,000 to farmers who agreed to reduce crops in cotton, wheat and tobacco.

"These gains, together with government loans to railroads for equipment and the public works program, are at last beginning to reach the heavy industries which have been called the key to recovery. Steel production turned upward in the week of November 20, and the outlook in this basic industry has improved greatly."

The Federation also reported upturns in automobile and lumber production and building contracts.

"Gains in these industries are basic," it said, "for workers employed in steel, building, or lumber must employ other workers in consumer industries to feed and clothe them. Business observers have repeatedly said that recovery must start in the 'heavy' industries, and the beginning of improvement here brightens the horizon."

More Work For Members of Street Railway Employes

Already, the effect of the Federal civil works program is making itself felt locally in many constructive ways. The Street Railway Company is reported to have put 10 additional street cars and almost a score of busses into service in response to the demand for additional transportation. This comes from the large number of workers who are being transported back and forth from their homes to many of the outlying districts where the various kinds of outdoor work on streets, sewers and the reservoir system is progressing.

The workers pay their own fares except on special routes where ordinary transportation is not available, in which case the municipality furnishes free rides. This decided increase in business will be a boon to members of Division 22, Street Railway Employes, and will call many men back into service who have long been hoping for just such a boom in business.—Worcester Labor News.

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